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THE COWL



VOL. LXXI No. 17

WWW.THECOWL.COM • PROVIDENCE COLLEGE • PROVIDENCE, R.I.

FEBRUARY 15, 2007

New mock trial club competes in tournament, takes home big award

BY BETH LENEHAN '08
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Though it has may have been an official club on campus for one month, the mock trial club has already started making a name for itself. Two teams of six students

CLUBS
& ORGS

from the club—each even winning one trial—participated in and were honored at the Greater New England

Regional Tournament held Feb. 3 and 4, at Roger Williams University Law School.

"Our teams went in there uncoached by a professional and walked out with two wins," said Nicole Picard '08, who is co-captain and co-founder of the club with Kyle Quadros '08, a transfer student from Emmanuel College in Boston. The formation of the club began when Quadros received an e-mail Picard sent to students in the Department of Political Science expressing interest in a mock trial club. Initially, Quadros said, about 20 students came to a meeting, but because competitive teams are limited to six to eight students, they were divided into practice and competition teams.

"Our losses were only by a few points for the most part, which was a nice surprise, and one team won the Spirit of

MOCK TRIAL/Page 4

Student Congress president strives for professionalism, transparency

BY JENNIFER JARVIS '07
NEWS EDITOR

A sign hanging in the Student Congress office on Monday, Feb. 12, read, "There are only 11 meetings left . . . What can we do for the students?" Only

STUDENT
CONGRESS

10 meetings remaining, this focus sums up the vision of Student Congress President Amy Baker '07

in the final months of the 57th Student Congress.

"We're really trying to be more professional in what we do, be transparent with the issues, and work with administration—not against them," said Baker, who delivered a "State of the Congress Address" on Sunday, Jan. 21, to motivate members to bring students back into the spotlight. She said that while Congress was busy last semester, much of its time was devoted to

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Beyond the books

The on-campus bookstore will go through a facelift to add more retail space and more PC-style decor

BY BETH FINAN '07
NEWS STAFF

From Jazzman's Café and the new convenience store to the building of the state-of-the-art fitness center, the Providence College campus has undergone a great deal of

change throughout the past year. Next in line for improvements is the on-campus bookstore, located in Lower Slavin.

According to Warren Gray, assistant vice president of business services, the renovations to the bookstore, which will begin on March 1 and conclude around the beginning of April, are part of the new

contract the College recently signed with Barnes and Noble. Other than minor repairs, such as new paint coatings, the bookstore has not undergone major changes in 15 years.

"We've got to be done by Family Day," said Gray, noting that it will be important for incoming students and their families to see the renovated stores.

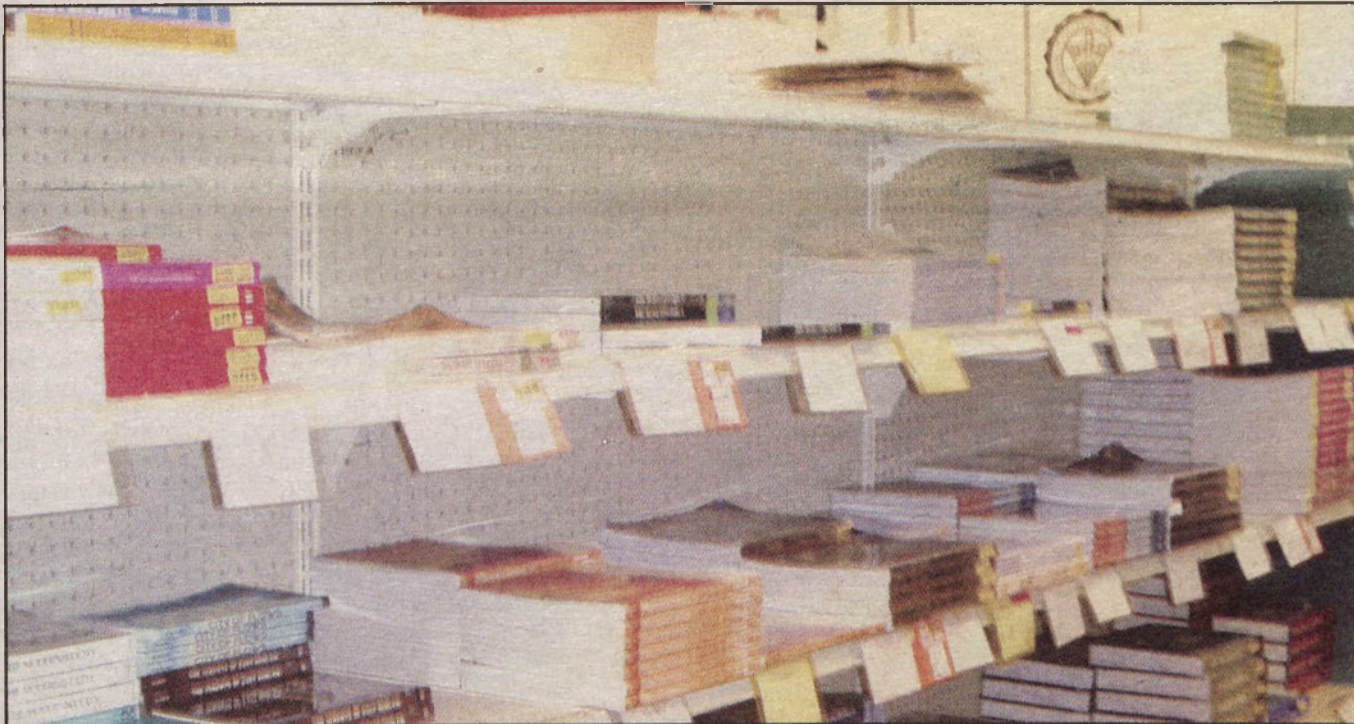
"It's amazing how many prospective students come into the bookstore," said Joe Rushworth, manager of the bookstore. "What we want to accomplish is to present Providence College in the best way possible and make the bookstore a more pleasant place to visit."

The quick turnaround on this project has delighted some students, particularly seniors, who said they are disappointed they will not be able to see some of the future changes on the campus.

"I'm glad we'll get to see it before we graduate—unlike the new gym," said Ashley Ford '07.

The bookstore will remain open during construction, although textbooks will

BOOKSTORE/Page 5



CHRISTINE DIEHL '09/The Cowl

Students should be prepared to see major changes in the bookstore, including small reading areas, new shelving, and artwork on the walls. This project, funded by Barnes & Noble, should take about a month to complete.

Students challenge Web site's design

BY JOE MILLER '10
NEWS STAFF

The Providence College Web site is one of the most visible public representations of the school, featuring content for people in every role in the community. Now, some

CAMPUS
NEWS

are questioning whether it does enough to represent the many clubs and organizations on campus.

Complaints about the Web site have focused on two issues in particular: the adequacy of the pages dedicated to each organization, and the process of placing events on the calendar on the home page.

On Jan. 31, a meeting was held with new members of the Board of Trustees and various members of the college community, including leaders of student organizations. The meeting, which included a discussion of the Web site's capabilities, and lasted one to two hours, is a part of the orientation process in which all new Board

members must participate.

At one point, the discussion turned to participation in student groups, and a statistic citing that 20 percent of students are involved in 80 percent of activities cited was mentioned. When the students present were asked about the accuracy of this estimate, the issue of the Web site and its effectiveness was raised.

"They were asking us if we think that statistic is true, and I mentioned that communication is a big issue here," said Yara Youssef '08, head of clubs and organizations.

Youssef said that "advertising is tough" because of the approval needed by the Student Activities-Involvement-Leadership (S.A.I.L.) Office to post flyers for events, and mentioned that "ANGEL is the only tool [the groups] have to communicate with each other."

Currently, the "Clubs and Organizations" page contains a categorized listing of each student group on cam-

pus. Clicking on a category such as "Language/Cultural" or "Service" brings up a more detailed look at the groups under that classification, including brief summaries of most.

The complaint voiced at the meeting, however, was that the individual groups do not have their own unique pages.

"In general, most clubs don't have representation," said Youssef. "[The site is] really easy to get around, but each club doesn't have its own page." She added that she feels individual pages would "improve communication and increase participation."

Patricia S. Vieira, associate vice president of College Relations and Planning, said this is an option that has been discussed in the past. She explained that while some clubs have maintained their own Web spaces, this has never been the standard procedure.

"We never really came to a consensus

WEB SITE/Page 3

NEWS

briefs

Crackdown on ID card policy

A new policy regarding the use of the PC card is being strictly enforced: No picture, no service.

"Last week when I went to swipe at Slavin, the cashier told me she wouldn't swipe my card because she couldn't see the picture," said Andrew Incitti '07. "I showed her a photo ID and also an old PC card—which I had lost, and then found—that both had my picture and my name on them. She finally swiped my card, but reluctantly, and told me I had to get a new one."

In the past few weeks, any student who has attempted to use a damaged PC ID at Raymond Cafeteria or Alumni Food Court has been told to get a replacement—and was also placed on a disciplinary list. Since the beginning of February, more than 100 students have been put on the list, and about 75 percent of those students have received new cards.

Incitti said he obtained a new card, free of charge, a few days after his incident in Slavin.

Students are being told to go to Harkins Hall, room 400, to replace their cards. According to Gene Robbins, business analyst for finance and business, if a student has a PC card with a faded picture, that student will not be charged for a replacement. Cards with images peeled off, cracks, or other damages will incur a \$5 charge. Lost or stolen cards cost \$20 to replace.

"If the face is gone, it serves no purpose," said Warren Gray, assistant vice president of business services. According to Gray, the ID card is college property and should be able to identify the person who owns the card.

Gray said if students on the list do not get their cards replaced, they will be subject to disciplinary action.

"We don't want to have to track them down," said Gray. "We would prefer to have them to [replace their cards] themselves."

The theft of one PC student's card prompted the campuswide crackdown. The student's card was not reported stolen before it was used at Alumni Food Court. The cashiers who swipe the cards were then told to compile the list of students whose pictures were not visible.

"Unfortunately, there are people in this world who are dishonest and steal your card," said Linda Hasbrouck, who works in the Alumni Food Court. "The school just wants to protect the students."

—Chris Donnelly '08

Seniors retreat to monastery

Last weekend, a group of seniors went on a retreat to Still River, Mass., to spend time reflecting on their time at Providence College and to prepare for life after graduation. This is the first time since 2003 that Providence College has hosted such a retreat for seniors.

"I thought it was a wonderful trip," said Jamie Caruso '07. "I think it came at the right time for a lot of seniors who are stressed."

Twenty-one seniors went on the retreat, which took place at St. Benedict Abbey, a Benedictine monastery. The seniors, along

with four alumni, and four ministers in the Office of the Chaplain were invited to the monastery premises.

"The retreat gave us a lot of free time to connect with other seniors," said Caruso. "I felt like I needed a weekend to unwind and really think."

Rev. John Paul Walker, O.P., assistant chaplain; Jessica Pane, campus minister; Rev. Thomas Ertle, O.P., assistant chaplain; and Rev. Thomas Blau, O.P., chaplain all attended the retreat, while Keeley Wray '05, Jackie White '04, John McBrine '01, and John Manganaro '03 gave talks about finding a job, graduate school, marriage, and staying involved in parish life.

"We were really happy with it," said Pane. "The retreat allowed seniors to have an intimate environment where they were able to socialize and relate to their peers."

According to Pane, the theme for the retreat was: "Remembering, Reflecting, and Revisioning." Students were encouraged to reflect on the highs and lows of their time at Providence and on their futures after they graduate.

"The retreat was a good chance to get away from school," said Christine Shayne '07. "It was a chance to reflect on my four years and life after college."

"It was good to hear from the seniors," said Shayne, adding she enjoyed listening to the alumni, who are at various stages in their post-PC life.

"I am no longer scared of graduating; I am excited," said Caruso.

The retreat was free to students because of a grant to the College's retreats program by the David and Lynn Angell Foundation. The Foundation was started by David Angell '69 and his wife Lynn, who were killed in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11.

—Chris Donnelly '08

Library holds open house despite weather

Despite the snow and freezing rain that graced the Providence College campus on Wednesday, Feb. 14, there was still at least one thing students could look forward to on campus on Valentine's Day. And surprisingly enough, that one glimmer of optimism could be found in Providence College's Phillips Memorial Library. From 3:45 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., a library commons open house was held to showcase some of the facility's newest technology.

According to the Providence College Web site, the library's goal is to create a "library commons," which is described as "the seamless integration of the traditional library with the technology-rich commons." Altogether, the goal is to increase the usefulness of the library for its users through helpful staff members, additional technological services, and means of obtaining easily-accessible information.

The information station is one area that has been upgraded. Located near the main entrance of the library, the information station has been refurnished with entirely new fittings, and the reference desk has been greatly enhanced, namely due to a new Macintosh computer and scanning station. According to the exhibit, the new furniture, in addition to added double monitors, are intended to foster and improve "collaboration and instruction." Another



SUSIE LUSHER '07/The Cowl

To decrease incidences of fraud, Slavin workers such as Linda Hasbrouck (above), have been told to compile a list of students whose IDs no longer have recognizable pictures.

area of the library that has been improved is the support station on the second floor. It is now equipped with new self-serve scanning stations.

The computer labs on the first floor of the library are looking better than ever. The digital services lab, which can be found in room 111, is described as "a new resource lab and center for patron and library digitization projects and the Providence College Digital Commons." Key features of this lab are the Macintosh computers and varied format scanners. To ensure the proper use of the new equipment, there are also staff members on duty, as well as training support.

The creation station and Macintosh lab in room 110 also includes Macintosh computers. A new collaborative computer lab contains Adobe Creative Suite software, as well as scanners. All of this equipment is available to students as well as to faculty members.

"With the Adobe Creative Suite software, you can design projects, and it's a nice clean interface," said Dan Newman '09. "There is a big screen, and you can do some very high-quality work."

Demonstrations of such new technology took place at the Open House. In particular, there were demonstrations of scanning, the basic uses of Macintosh and Photoshop, and an introduction to such Macintosh applications as iLife and iMovie.

Snacks and drinks were available to participants throughout the day, and there were even raffle giveaways of prizes including iTunes gift certificates. Library staff members were available at each of the stations to answer any questions viewers had about the new technology.

Even though the library had to close early on Valentine's Day due to the inclement weather, the day was still

packed with demonstrations of the whole new technological world now available in the Phillips Memorial Library.

—Rick Kurker '09

Accuracy Watch

The Cowl is committed to accuracy and carefully checks every article that goes into print to ensure that the facts are presented clearly and truthfully. If you find an error in any article, please e-mail the editor at thecowl@providence.edu. Corrections will be printed as necessary on page 2.

Judicial Review

Date: Jan. 26, 2007
Subject: Administrative Review
Outcome
Charge: Weapons related offense—responsible
Sanctions: Disciplinary probation through April 26, 2007

Date: Jan. 29, 2007
Subject: Administrative Review
Outcome
Charge: Alcohol (second violation)—responsible; Trespass—responsible
Sanctions: Fine—\$250; Alcohol Education Class, Reflection paper; Parental notification; Disciplinary probation through April 26, 2007

CAMPUS

CALENDAR

February 16 to 22

16 Friday	17 Saturday	18 Sunday	19 Monday	20 Tuesday	21 Wednesday	22 Thursday
2:00 p.m. Class of 2007 Ring Sales, Slavin Center	10:00 a.m. Class of 2007 Ring Sales, Slavin Center	9:00 a.m. Class of 2007 Ring Sales, Slavin Center	7:00 p.m. A cappella concert, McPhail's	5:00 p.m. Mardi Gras Dinner, McPhail's	3:30 p.m. Office of Academic Services: Improve Your (Speed) Reading workshop, Library 333	7:00 p.m. Urban Action election information session, Moore Hall I
4:00 p.m. Upperclassmen's Parents Weekend	4:00 p.m. Rejects on the Rise performance, Smith Center for the Arts		7:00 p.m. "Inside Iraq" director Mike Shiley lecture, Slavin Center '64 Hall	7:00 p.m. Coffeehouse: Open Mic Night, McPhail's		
6:00 p.m. Amica Mutual Insurance Information Session, Slavin 112	Angell Blackfriars Theatre					

Human trafficking talk eye-opening experience

BY JENNIFER JARVIS '07
NEWS EDITOR

The face of slavery may have changed, but certain forms of slavery are still as alive as ever, and could be taking place less than five miles from campus, Sister

CAMPUS NEWS

Mary Ellen Dougherty told students gathered in the Campus Ministry Center on Tuesday, Feb. 13. Sister Dougherty, program administrator for Grant on Human Trafficking Migration and Refugee Services, held a session to bring the issue of slavery into a contemporary context.

"It's something that's close to home but students don't realize how close it is," said Greg Kerr '07, president of Campus Ministry.

Trafficking is force, fraud, or coercion leading people to commercial sex or labor, according to Sister Dougherty. She told the story of four Mexican girls in their early teens who were picked up by two "recruiters" for a brothel. The girls were each told by one of the men that he loved her and would give her a better life in the United States.

"The deepest and most driving need was love," said Sister Doherty, who added that this false love would soon turn to fear.

The recruiters turned the girls over to a pair of sisters who owned a brothel in New Jersey. There, the girls serviced between 16 and 24 clients a day, were subject to forced abortions, and were rarely allowed to leave the brothel. It was only when a call from a neighbor prompted law enforcement to raid the building that the girls were taken from the brothel and sent to the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), Sister Dougherty said.

Although originally the girls were to be represented by a lawyer hired by the traffickers, an astute judge discovered the plot and stepped in, said Sister Dougherty. Due to the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, international victims of human trafficking are given all the benefits available to a refugee. The girls were therefore allowed to stay in the United States for four years and were then allowed to apply to stay permanently, Sister Dougherty said.

This story is just one example of commercial sex and human trafficking includes other forms of extortion.

"This is not a gender issue; this is a human rights issue," Sister Dougherty said, emphasizing that people must learn the scope of the problem. People tend to stereotype human trafficking as only prostitution, whereas more than half of all victims are trafficked for labor.

The TVPA—which allows for the prosecution of traffickers as well as assistance for victims—was passed with a "high level of bi-partisan approval," which is a promising sign, according to Sister Dougherty. She noted the connection between the trafficking and immigration laws, giving the

statistic that it takes a Mexican 11 years on average to get into the United States legally. But some cannot afford to wait.

"Those are the people who get caught in the wind of human trafficking," she said.

Sister Dougherty distinguished between smuggling and trafficking, saying that many victims of trafficking often believe they are making a consensual arrangement to be smuggled over the border. This act often turns to trafficking, however, when the other person involved deceives the immigrant and coerces him or her into labor. According to Sister Dougherty, the United States has recovered victims from approximately 47 countries.

"I was surprised to see how wide-scale it was," said Shannon Johnson '09.

Although few Americans are trafficked to other countries, many are enslaved within the country. Sister Dougherty gave the example of a number of schizophrenic patients in Kansas who were forced to work on their doctor's farm, another example of the many different types of people exploited through trafficking.

While those people convicted of trafficking are sentenced 15 to 20 years in prison on average, methods of finding the victims—and subsequently, the perpetrators—can be a problem, according to Sister Dougherty. She said the Department of State estimates that approximately 16,000 international trafficking victims are brought into the country each year, yet in the last seven years only about 1,500 have been recovered.

"We're not finding the victims," she said.

Students and all citizens can help in this endeavor, however.

"You can be vigilant, you can notice," said Sister Dougherty, adding that people should speak up when they see suspicious behavior. She cited the case of a group of 90 Peruvians who were put in legitimate businesses in Long Island but were threatened and forced to turn over their paychecks to their traffickers.

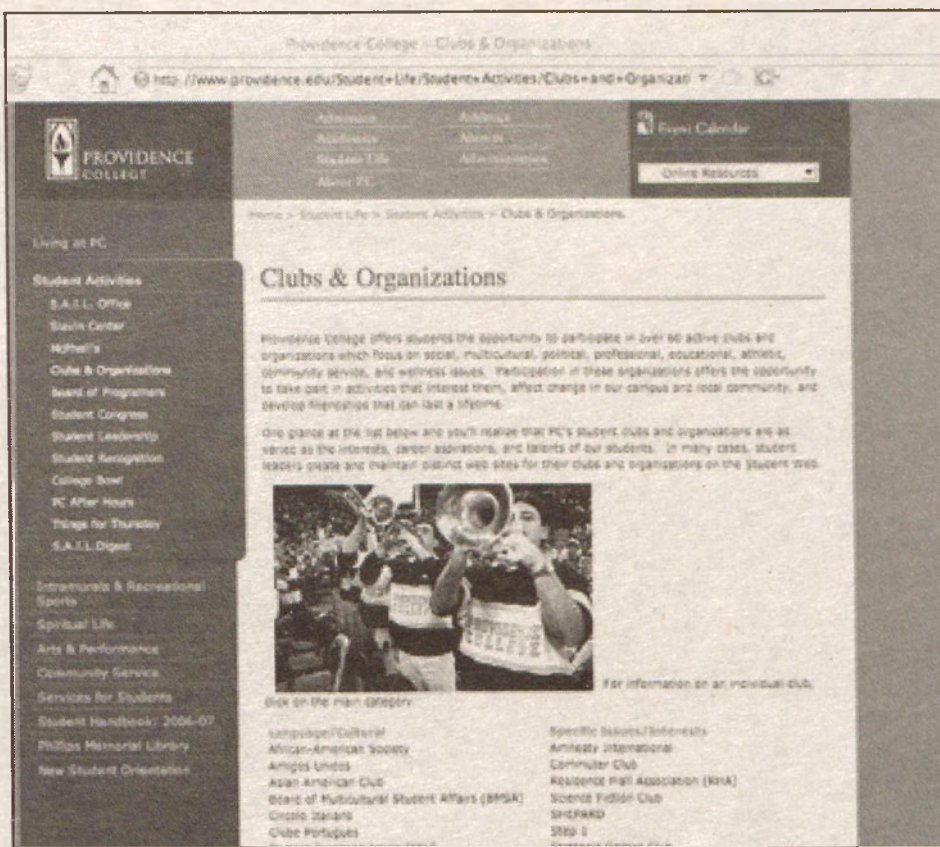
"Someone was working alongside these people," Sister Dougherty said, but suggested that their coworkers probably assumed the people were illegal aliens afraid to speak up for fear of being deported.

Another way to help is by joining a local group, as Giselle Routhier '07 suggested.

"I'm a member of the Rhode Island Coalition Against Human Trafficking," she said. The organization is trying to get state legislation passed to strengthen the federal TVPA. The state law would offer help to victims, prosecute traffickers, and establish a task force to study the issue, she said.

In addition to groups like this, Sister Dougherty simply urged students to get the word out by talking with others. For many students, Sister Dougherty's talk was their first exposure to the issue of modern-day slavery in the United States.

"I think I only know of it in a kind of cursory way," said Dan Farrell '08. "I didn't really know the extent of it."



MATT LONGOBARDI '10/The Cowl

Although many clubs and organizations offered at Providence College are listed on the school's Web site, little information is given about particular clubs. Some students are calling for individual organizations to have their own Web pages.

Web site: Effective?

continued from front page

on that, so it hasn't been done," she said.

According to Vieira, a meeting is being planned with Rev. Brendan Murphy, O.P., vice president of student services, to consider an overhaul of the "Clubs and Organizations" part of the site.

"Certainly, that will be one of the options discussed," she said. "When we launched the Web site in '03, we had talked with Fr. Murphy about sitting down and talking about that whole section and how we can make it better. It's always a work in progress."

The other main complaint involves the procedure of requesting space on the site's events calendar, located on the right side of the home page. While college officials maintain that this is a relatively straightforward practice, not all students have been satisfied with the results.

"The only way you can get an event on the calendar is if you reserve a room or area," said Steve Kenney '08. "Most students don't know [the calendar] is there. They don't go to the providence.edu Web site and click on the link in the lower right corner."

According to Vieira and Caron, all requests for calendar space are submitted to central reservationist coordinator Victoria Moschou of the S.A.I.L. Office through the Resource 25 program. If the event is approved, it is forwarded to College Relations and Planning, where it is added to the site.

"Everyone is supposed to funnel their information," said Caron. "Once they have confirmation, they kick it over to us and we put it up there."

Referring to the issues mentioned at the meeting, he said, "This was all brought up as part of a broader conversation. I'm still at a loss as to what official student events are not being included."

Added Vieira: "We realize what an important communication vehicle that is . . . certainly we're willing to work with any student group."

Vieira and Caron said that the only way an event would purposely be excluded is if it is not received in enough time before the event.

"On a rare occasion, we'll get a listing of something that's happening that day," said Caron. "It's not helpful anymore to put it up there—but this is a function of someone running the event."

"That's the only circumstance that we wouldn't post something," he said.

According to Kenney, however, the process has not been that effective.

"I've been reserving rooms for publicity on Student Congress for over a year, and last week I got my first e-mail asking if I wanted it on the events calendar," he said.

Kenney also said he feels the site is "not catered to current students; it's catered to prospective students."

Approximately 100 organizations are currently listed on the site, while the events calendar features campus occurrences as far into the future as May.

Congress: Accountability, respect at top of list

continued from front page

dealing with internal issues and things that were unimportant to the larger student body. This semester, she said, will be different.

Baker highlighted some areas where Congress will focus this semester, starting with the voting record. Of the five pieces of legislation voted on last semester, only one decision—vetoing the recognition of the Theology Club as an official club—was not unanimous. Baker said she sees this as a sign that either the issues Congress is handling are not contentious enough or that there is not enough of a dialogue about issues. She said she is working on a way to make the voting record more accessible to students so they can see how their representatives voted on each issue.

"It's an attempt to hold Student Congress accountable," she said. "I think it will go a long way in changing reelections."

In past years, Baker said, allocations and other club issues were largely the things with which Congress was concerned. She said she sees the role of Congress expanding this semester as it advocates for itself to be taken more seriously by the faculty and administration. One example she gave was on the issue of the calendar changes, asserting that while members of the College were anxious to hear what the Faculty Senate thought of the calendar proposals, no one seemed concerned about Student Congress' opinion.

"They weren't really hearing what students wanted," Baker said. Congress therefore came up with its own calendar proposal, which Baker said was more conducive to students' needs. The proposal, which passed 32 to five, was presented to Dr. Hugh F. Lena, vice president of academic affairs, and Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., president of Providence College.

"For the first time in my experience,

these two proposals [one from Faculty Senate and one from Student Congress] are going to be seen on an equal playing

“

[The calendar proposal] is huge unto itself, but I think that it's attributable to the fact that we have an administration that's ready to listen.

Amy Baker '07

”

field," Baker said.

In addition to recommending a calendar plan, the proposal demanded student representation on the calendar committee rather than just in open forums.

"On all issues which affect students and this institution, students should be seen as a part of the collaborative process, not an afterthought," said the proposal.

Baker said she is encouraged by Student Congress' action regarding this matter, noting that Congress will follow a similar procedure for giving input on other upcoming issues, including the Strategic Plan, the Core Curriculum Review, and the Committee on Culture, Civility, and Conduct (CCCC). Baker added that Congress' broadening role has much to do with open minds in the administration.

"[The calendar proposal] is huge unto itself, but I think that it's attributable to the fact that we have an administration that's ready to listen," she said.

Baker added that the individual members of Congress have meshed this year.

"Our best asset on Congress is that we have the right students in the right positions," she said. "This semester's going to

Mock Trial: New club sets precedent of spirit

continued from front page

AMTA award, which goes to the team that is most professional, cordial, friendly and sportsmanlike before, during, and after the trial.

According to Picard, after three rounds of competition, the teams were asked to grade the teams they had faced on a scale of one to 10. "Our team garnered 27 out of a possible 30 for this award," said Picard.

"We were surprised at the initial turnout because of the simple fact that we didn't know if we would have enough for one team," said Quadros.

Due to the fact that the club formed late in the first semester, it did not receive school funding. "We asked students who were competing to pay 20 dollars," to cover costs said Quadros.

The club was officially approved at the start of the second semester, and two weeks later, the mock trial club was on its way to their first competition, where Picard said the group competed against teams from Bates University, Wellesley College, New York University, Dartmouth College, Boston College, Boston University, and Clark University.

Picard and Quadros each coached their own teams and began meeting more frequently with them as the competition approached. Quadros also emphasized the teamwork that went into each practice.

"The entire team ran the practice—there was a mutual respect among everybody," he said. "We did what we had to do. Everyone rose up as captains."

To prepare for competition, Picard said, "AMTA . . . creates trial materials (affidavits of witnesses, evidence, stipulations, case law, etc) and each team gets access to the file online. Then you prepare the case and argue it over this weekend tournament, being the plaintiff twice and the defense twice."

According to Quadros, the cases given to the students were actual civil or criminal cases from eight to 10 years ago, with the names changed.

In the competition, said Quadros, three



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLE PICARD '08

Left to right: Mike Willemin '08, Katie Kendall '09, Tony Rezzonico '09, Alex Marriott '08, Nicole Picard '08, Colleen O'Neill '08, Tim Canney '08, Kristin Beaulieu '10, Kyle Quadros '08, Lauren Devuono '09, and Carlos Trujillo '09 competed at the Greater New England Regional Tournament, held at Roger Williams University Law School on Feb. 3 and 4.

students acted as attorneys and three as witnesses. One of the student attorneys made an opening statement and conducted a direct examination on his or her witness, and an attorney from the other team would cross examine that witness. Another attorney was responsible for making the closing argument. Both teams were responsible for making opening and closing arguments.

A panel of three judges, consisting of actual judges, attorneys, or final year law students, scored the teams on a scale of one to 10, including the witnesses. Many teams had a lawyer or law student coach them, but the PC teams did not.

"We were the only team that went in uncoached—both of our teams were the

surprise of the tournament," said Quadros.

Quadros' team beat the BU team and lost to two separate BC teams and Wheaton by small margins, which Quadros said could have easily been wins. Picard's team lost to two teams from Dartmouth, one from Clark, but defeated a team from Bates.

Despite each team experiencing some losses, the judges were impressed with them and both teams were approached by lawyers asking to be their coach for the next year.

"We're really excited we got the experience in and got the club up and running so that we can go in there next year coached and fully prepared," Picard said. "One of the judges actually offered to coach us for

next year, and we have the contact information for a lot of law students that would be interested in helping us out . . . so we're really looking to establish ourselves further with the next competition."

Quadros also pointed out the teams were young, as members consisted of mostly sophomores and juniors, with a few freshmen. Due to the long hours spent together practicing, the team members became close.

"Our two teams spent several hours, especially right before the trial getting into character and practicing for the competition," said Lauren Devuono '09. "Not to be cliché, but I felt like our teams connected and formed a 'mock trial family.' This club definitely extended my friendships and allowed me to participate in an activity that I thoroughly enjoyed and have been doing since my freshman year of high school."

For Katie Kendall '09, the mock trial brought not only new friendships, but the chance to learn the legal system outside the confines of a classroom.

"Mock trial is a great opportunity for students to meet new friends and to have fun," said Kendall. "We worked together as a team to develop our case and to learn about the legal system without having to sit in class and read a text book."

Kendall said she was unsure at first at the how the club would fare in competition without the help of a coach, but the team was able to "hold its own."

"The best part is we did it all on our own . . . I am so excited to compete again next year. Participating on the mock trial team has been the best thing I have done at Providence College," Kendall added.

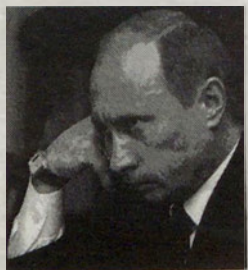
Devuono said she "could not be prouder" of how well the teams performed.

"I am so proud and honored that I had the chance to meet and compete with such wonderful people," she said.

Members of the club said they hope to have more students join next semester.

"We have high hopes for PC," said Quadros.

Like World News?



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Stop by Slavin G05 or e-mail
thecowl@providence.edu for an
application.

Providence College Department of Theatre, Dance, and Film
Spring 2007 Season

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead

by Tom Stoppard February 2-4 & 9-11

Company

by Stephen Sondheim & George Furth March 30-April 1 & April 13-15

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Bookstore: Upcoming renovations to be quick

continued from front page

no longer be available once it begins. The shelves that currently store textbooks are being moved out and replaced, so both Gray and Rushworth emphasized that students who have not yet purchased their books need to do so as soon as possible.

"If people still need their books, they should get them now because these shelves won't be here anymore," said Rushworth.

In addition to renovating the current space, the size of the bookstore will also be expanded. The new entrance will be located to the left of the current entrance, and space currently used for offices will be converted into retail space.

Gray said the renovations will be done at no additional cost to the College, as

“

One of the critical things a college bookstore does is to reflect the face of PC, and I think this will do that . . . With this renovation, we hope to make it look like the Providence College bookstore and make it blend a little better with PC colors.

Joe Rushworth

”

Barnes & Noble is sponsoring the renovations. The only thing the College will have to pay for is the installation of a sprinkler system, per Rhode Island fire codes.

"[The renovations] will help us expand our clothing area and allow greater flexibility for the bookstore in general," said Gray.

The expansion will make the bookstore closer to the new loading dock, so it will be easier to load books directly into bookstore.

Not only does this assist the staff, but it benefits the students as well.

"The stocking of shelves will be easier for staff, so it will be easier for kids to find everything they want," said Gray.

The college division of the Barnes & Noble chain has contracts to run bookstores at more than 700 schools, according to Gray. The company has its own construction crew who has helped design the improved look of PC's store.

"Some designs look similar to ones at

the mall, but the college bookstores are unique" because they are a different branch of the parent company, Gray said.

Preliminary sketches of the design include new shelves, floors, paint colors, and furniture, as well as an expanded clothing section.

"With the expanded sales areas, we'll be able to offer more products," said Gray.

Rushworth was particularly pleased with the color scheme the renovated bookstore will feature. Rather than the teal colors currently decorating the walls, Rushworth said shades of PC colors—black and white—will be prominent in the store.

"When we last designed the bookstore, green was the 'wow!' color," he said. "With this renovation, we hope to make it look like the Providence College bookstore and make it blend a little better with PC colors."

In addition, small reading areas featuring armchairs and small tables will be added, and artwork and pictures—designed to give visitors a "cross-section" of PC life—will line the top of the walls.

"We plan to change the pictures on a regular basis to feature different pictures around different events," said Gray. "For example, we might have more athletic photos up there around alumni weekend [in January]."

"One of the critical things a college bookstore does is to reflect the face of PC, and I think this will do that," said Rushworth. "[Photos] from the archives would be also appropriate in order to bring some heritage in, which would look a lot better than the red and white stripes we now have."

Colleen Shannon '07 shared her thoughts on the bookstore, saying, "The renovations might make you want to browse more rather than run in and out. To tell you the truth, I don't even know what the bookstore really has because I normally just run in and buy my books."

Despite the growing popularity of buying books from discount Web sites, such as eBay or Amazon.com, Gray said he still believes on-campus bookstores play an important role.

"The reality is that from a convenience perspective and the fact that we are required to have all the books, I think the model will evolve a little, but I don't think it will change," said Gray. "We have to be there for you because the bookstore is the only place students can go to get all the books they need."

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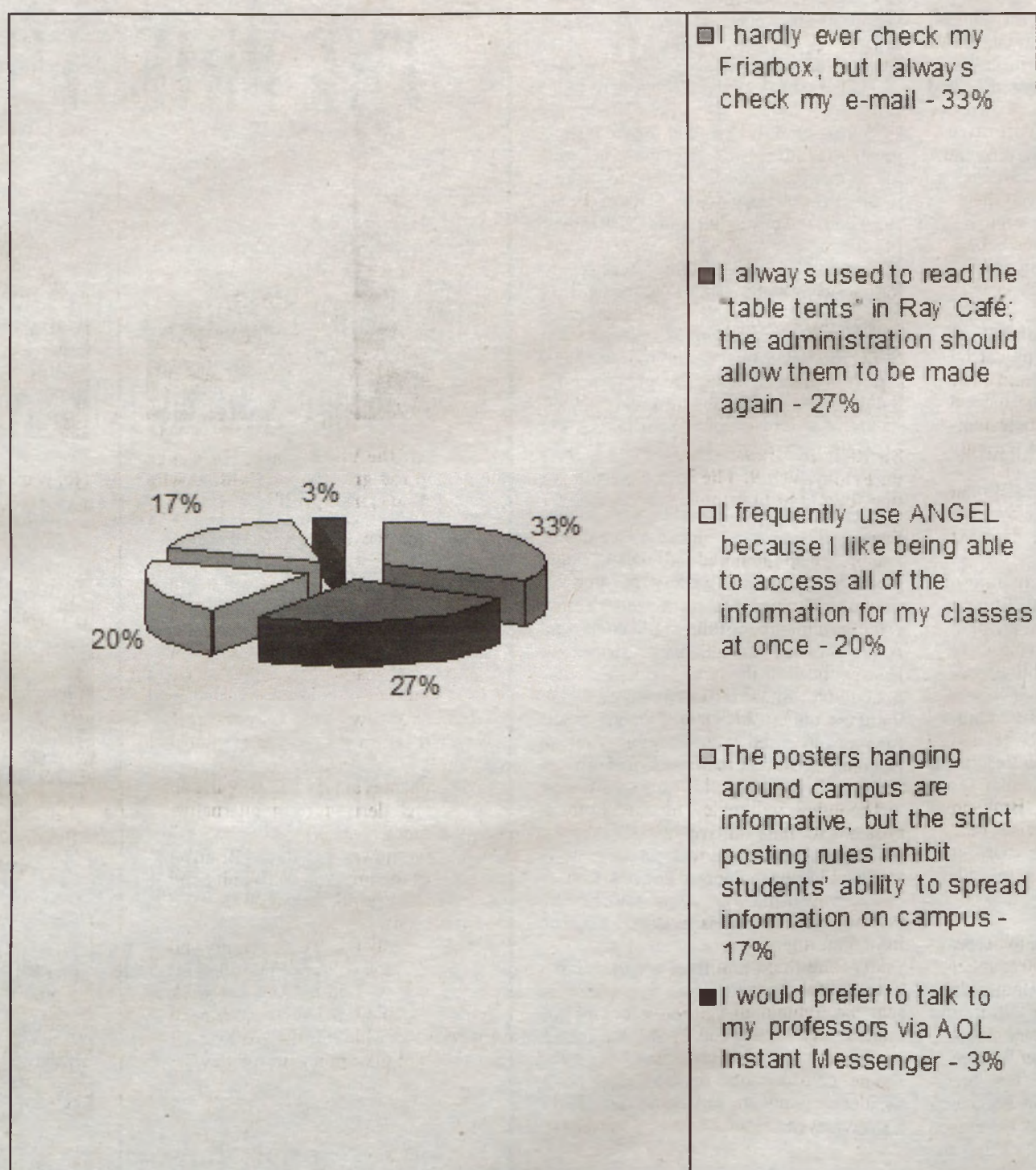
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STUDENTS

Rhode Island does not have a procedure for certifying attorneys in areas of specialization.

In its last issue, The Cowl asked its readers how they obtain information on campus. Here's the consensus:



THIS WEEK:

What do you think about PC's Web site?

- 1.) The site should have a page listing the contact information for all leaders of clubs and organizations on campus.
- 2.) The "pop quiz" questions should be updated more frequently.
- 3.) There should be more recent photos of students and faculty members.
- 4.) The site is easy to navigate and provides helpful information for alumni and current and prospective students.
- 5.) There should be more multimedia components on the site.

Vote on www.thecowl.com and find out the results in next week's issue of The Cowl.

Can Branson's cash save Earth?

BY MARY KATE NEVIN '09
WORLD STAFF

A competition to solve the world's climate crisis? It sounds like a strange idea, but British entrepreneur and airline tycoon Sir Richard Branson established exactly that with his "Virgin Earth Challenge," a \$25 million prize to whomever can devise the most effective and economical method of removing carbon from the atmosphere.

"Man created the problem and therefore man should solve the problem," Branson told the BBC on Friday, Feb. 9. "I want a future for my children and my children's children. The clock is ticking."

Growing evidence shows that as greenhouse emissions and industrial activity release carbon dioxide and other gases into the atmosphere, the natural fluctuation of the global average temperature intensifies and the climate warms much more rapidly. Scientists predict that, if no action is taken, global average temperatures could rise by 35 to 43 degrees Fahrenheit within the next century.

Such an increase in temperature would be disastrous to most life on Earth, as Branson told *Reuters*, "Unless we can devise a way of removing CO₂ (carbon dioxide) from the earth's atmosphere," Branson warned, "we will lose half of all species on earth, all the coral reefs, 100 million people will be displaced, farmlands will become deserts, and rain forests wastelands."

To counter the problem, Branson encouraged scientists to devise new ways of capturing and storing existing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere with what he described as the "largest prize ever offered."

Al Gore, environmental advocate, former vice president and 2007 Nobel Peace Prize nominee, was at Branson's side for the announcement.

"We are now facing a planetary emergency. The planet has a fever," Gore said. "This is an initiative to stimulate someone to do something that no one knows how to do. This is right at the cut-



BUSINESS INNOVATION INSIDER

Sir Richard Branson, head of Virgin Group, kicked off the Virgin Earth Challenge on Friday, Feb. 9. The challenge offers \$25 million to the group or individual who devises a plan to remove tons of carbon from our atmosphere.

ting edge."

Gore, who authored a book about global warming, and who starred in its ensuing documentary, *An Inconvenient Truth*, is a member of the judging panel. Also judging are Branson; James Hansen, head of the NASA Institute for Space Studies; James Lovelock, inventor of the ecological "Gaia Theory;" Tim Flannery, Australian mammalogist and paleontologist; and British environmentalist Sir Crispin Tickel.

The judges will review ideas and submissions for the next five years, but they may choose to extend that period if no proposal has been deemed sufficient.

The winner must present a strategy to remove one billion tons of carbon gases from the atmosphere each year for 10 years. The first \$5 million will be paid to the winner as soon as the idea is chosen. The remaining \$20 million will be remunerated at the end of the 10-year period if the plan has proved effective.

The creation of the Virgin Earth Challenge is not the first time Branson has displayed his dedication to finding

solutions for the environmental issues our planet faces. At the convention of the Clinton Global Initiative in September 2006, Branson announced that 100 percent of his profits from his Virgin airline and train companies for the next 10 years—estimated to be about \$3 billion—would be invested in researching renewable energy sources that would lessen the effects of global warming.

His companies are also developing an aviation fuel derived from alternative energy sources.

With his newest project, Branson emphasized the importance of unity and environmental responsibility in the face of such a crisis.

"We have only our own ingenuity and we have no hope of a meaningful solution unless we find a way to work together," he told CBC news. "We need everybody capable of discovering an answer to put their minds to it today."

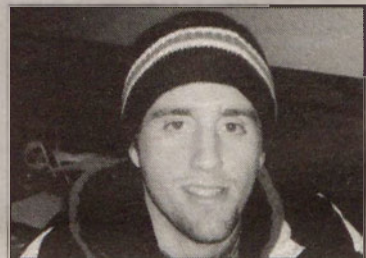
Ask PC

Would you be more likely to buy music from iTunes if there were fewer restrictions on how you could use the music?



"No, because you have to pay for it, and we are poor college students."

Nancy Do '09



"I'm still a big fan of CDs. I like flipping through the booklets."

Ricardo Arocha '08



"If it were free."

Kate Lyons '08



"If it were free we would use it."

**Christy Becker '10
and Alisha Levine '09**



"Yeah, if they were free, because it seems like you cannot do anything with the music from Ruckus; it just sits on your computer—so it's kind of a waste."

Maria Galle '08

COMPILED BY JULIANNE SPOHRER '07

Apple fights restrictions on MP3 players

BY SARAH VAZ '07
WORLD EDITOR

Steve Jobs is hard pressed to stay out of the spotlight so far this year. Just as furor over the iPhone unveiling and his questionable financial dealings have begun to die down, the Apple CEO is making waves again.

This time, Jobs has agitated the music world, lashing out at record companies in his capacity as leader of the third largest music retailer, iTunes. Jobs' goal is to challenge the Digital Rights Management (DRM) practices—the technology that limits how one can use an MP3 file purchased online.

In an open letter entitled "Thoughts on Music," published on Apple's Web site, Jobs simultaneously details his disappointment in the music industry and defends the iTunes software.

While iTunes currently supports DRM on music files, Jobs said he would be quick to support music files without DRM-protection.

This statement comes after long-standing criticism that iTunes locks out MP3 players that are not iPods, and thus contributes to a sort of monopoly by selling DRM-protected files that will only work with the iPod device.

Jobs continued to defend his company's

devices and software by noting that Apple does not own or control the music that is transferred over iTunes, and that the DRM-restrictions are not in place to protect the iPod/iTunes relationship, but rather are set by the "big four" music companies—Universal, Sony BMG, Warner, and EMI—who force Apple to comply.

These companies set strict guidelines and place security technology on their MP3 files, and if a distributor like Apple's iTunes fails to comply, the record company withdraws its entire music catalog from the store.

While Jobs said Apple prides itself on being able to provide the most liberal music usage rights of any legally downloaded music available via its "FairPlay" copy protection technology, he said he is still disappointed with DRM in general.

Jobs cites an average of 22 songs purchased per iPod since Apple began selling music and players. "Today's most popular iPod holds 1,000 songs, and research tells us that the average iPod is nearly full. This means that only 22 out of 1,000 songs, or under three percent of the music on the average iPod, is purchased from the iTunes store and protected with a DRM," Jobs argued in the letter.

"The remaining 97 percent of the music is unprotected and playable on any player that can play the open formats," he continued. "Since 97 percent of the music on the

average iPod was not purchased from the iTunes store, iPod users are clearly not locked into the iTunes store to acquire their music."

Jobs' letter also expressed his belief that there are three paths for digital music in the future—the best option being to abolish DRMs entirely, he said.

By allowing DRM-free music in an open licensable format to be purchased at every online music store, "any player can play music purchased from any store, and any store can sell music which is playable on all players. This is clearly the best alternative for consumers, and Apple would embrace it in a heartbeat," Jobs said.

Jobs' reasoning is based on evidence that shows DRM does not halt music piracy, which is its main intent. He criticized record companies' for selling DRM-free music on CDs in stores that can be easily ripped and redistributed on the Internet, and for remaining so strict with online retailers.

While Jobs said he hopes his control over the giant music retailer can sway the media conglomerates that own the "big four" music companies, he is also hopeful that his letter will redirect consumer attacks on Apple's software and music store toward these companies, possibly creating a consumer climate in which interoperable music can exist.

Week in Review

COMPILED BY SARAH VAZ '07

Local

House fire claims two lives

A house fire last week on nearby Chalkstone Avenue has claimed two lives. Kitaiya Phenglee died at a Boston hospital due to complications from severe burns after being found without a pulse inside her burning home on Tuesday, Feb. 6. Her father, Chaiya Phenglee, died attempting to rescue her.

The *Providence Journal* reported that firefighters were able to revive the girl at the scene of the fire, but she remained in critical condition because of the second- and third-degree burns, which covered most of her body. The girl's mother and her 10-year-old brother escaped uninjured.

National

Pin-up's death rocking Bahamas

While news of the circumstances and aftermath of her death continue to pervade the airwaves, the late Anna Nicole Smith has stirred up controversy in the Bahamian government as well.

The *Tribune of Nassau* has published multiple pictures of the former Playboy bunny in bed with the Bahamian immigration minister who approved her application for permanent residency. Smith and the official, Shane Gibson, are pictured embracing on a bed gazing into one another's eyes.

While both are fully clothed, the pic-

tures, taken in Smith's bedroom, have renewed criticism that Gibson unfairly fast-tracked her application for residency, giving her preferential treatment because of their relationship.

In the Bahamas, it is notoriously difficult to be granted permanent resident status because of the desirability of the locale. Gibson is also an elected member of parliament in the Bahamas.

International

Ahmadinejad dismisses accusations

In Tehran this week, Iran's president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, rejected suggestions that the country was responsible for arming Shi'ite militants in Iraq. Previously, U.S. officials alleged that weapons used by militants to kill American soldiers are believed to have been made in Iranian factories. The officials subsequently accused Iran of authorizing the smuggling of such weapons into Iraq for purposes of supporting the insurgency.

In a publicized interview with ABC News, Ahmadinejad, a vocal critic of President George Bush and the Iraq war, made a point to note that his country is opposed to any kind of conflict in neighboring Iraq, regardless of its political views.

"Our position for Iraq is very clear," he said. "We are asking for peace, we are ask-

ing for security, and we will be sad to see people get killed, no matter who they are."

Ahmadinejad also reiterated his offer to provide "intellectual support" to both the United States and to Iraq for the purpose of ending the conflict there.

Culture

Fashion industry debates weight

As London Fashion Week gets into full swing this week, many experts continue to focus on the industry's self-regulation of model's body weight. While some argue this has unfairly taken the focus off of the designers' art, others contend it is a necessary precaution.

While other fashion weeks have opted to ban "super-skinny" women from the catwalk—usually basing that decision on a woman's body mass index (BMI)—London has not.

"We feel strongly that banning is not the right course to take," fashion chief Hilary Riva told Reuters. "It's very discriminatory. You can't tell by looking at a model and you can't tell by weighing a model whether she is suffering from an eating disorder." The British Fashion Council, which organizes the city's fashion week, did issue guidelines to designers encouraging them to choose "healthy" models in their events for the upcoming autumn/winter shows.

Oddly
ENOUGH

'Til death do us part

Just in time for Valentine's Day, a team of archaeologists has made a heartwarming discovery in Mantova, Italy.

The archaeologists found skeletal remains of an embracing couple buried together thousands of years ago. Scientists have just announced that the couple will be preserved interlocked, just the way they were found.

Normally when remains are found, the bones are removed piece by piece and later reassembled, but for this special couple the entire plot of land will be dug up to preserve the position.

Scientists hope a closer examination will allow them to gain a greater understanding of the first Neolithic couple to be found buried together.

—KIM KRUPA '07

Source: Reuters



Obama challenges critics, makes it official

Illinois senator invokes Lincoln in promise to change American politics, unite Americans

BY AMANDA SILK '08
WORLD STAFF

It was hardly a surprise that Senator Barack Obama (D-Ill.) made the official announcement that he will run for president to a crowd of at least 10,000 in Springfield, Ill. If elected, Obama, 45, will be the first African American president of the United States.

During his announcement, Obama harkened back to years ago when another future president stood on the same ground, calling for unity and a new kind of politics.

"And that is why," he said, "in the shadow of the Old State Capitol, where Lincoln once called on a divided house to stand together, where common hopes and common dreams still live, I stand before you today to announce my candidacy for president of the United States of America."

During his speech, Obama told the cheering crowd that if elected he would work to resolve the economic problems of poor schools, poverty, and oil dependence.

Obama also stated that he has outlined a plan to bring the American troops serving in Iraq home by March of 2008.

According to CNN, he called the war in Iraq a "tragic mistake" and said, "Letting the Iraqis know that we will not be there forever is our last, best hope to pressure the Sunni and Shia to come to the table and find peace."

"I know that I haven't spent a lot of time learning the ways of Washington, but I've been there long enough to know that the ways of Washington must change."

Barack Obama

change, Obama stressed, ordinary Americans need to demand it from their government, or it is unlikely to happen.

"He's young, and has had success, but I think he's just too inexperienced to be a viable candidate for the presidency,"



Obama told the crowd that the current system of politics is hindered by pettiness and needs to change. As part of that

Andrew Dallas '09. "That being said, he's a great politician. I can see why so many people are so attracted to him."

Chinese parents look to Hong Kong for change

BY ERIN EGAN '07
WORLD STAFF

In the United States, the term "family planning" is evocative of contraceptive technology and reproductive rights. In China, this planning is of an even more controversial sort, and the country has received both international and domestic criticism of its strict programs for the past several years.

Experts have deemed the country's planning policies out-dated and self-defeating, especially as the populous country enters the 21st century.

Perhaps most controversial is the One Child Policy, which states that urban families be limited to one child. Originally adopted in 1970 to curb unsustainable population growth rates, the policy has led to a present growth rate of just .7 percent.

Many believe that this level of growth is detrimental to the economic well being of the country.

In the face of this problem, the city of Hong Kong may provide valuable insights

necessary for China to institute reform.

In recent years, Hong Kong has served as a refuge for wealthy Chinese women in search of hospitals to have a second child. While the birth of a second child is technically prohibited in Chinese cities, Hong Kong keeps separate government records, having formerly been a British colony.

Because the records are not combined, mothers who give birth to a second child in the administrative region of Hong Kong can circumvent the quota.

As a result there has been a large influx of women into Hong Kong for this purpose, putting strain on the public hospital system. According to *The Wall Street Journal* article, "Hong Kong's Baby Boom" by Geoffrey Fowler and Jying Qin, as many as 20,000 mainland Chinese women gave birth in Hong Kong hospitals—"making up more than a third of all births in this city of seven million." That figure is up 150 percent from 2001 estimates.

Unfortunately for mothers, China has penalized evasion of the family planning quota rather than easing the burden the

policy puts on families.

Zhang Weiqing, minister of the National Population and Family Planning Commission, confirmed this in a recent news conference.

The *Wall Street Journal* also reported that in his remarks, Weiqing emphasized that China has no plans to loosen its policy, citing the American baby-boom of the early 1980s as justification.



After the 1980 revision that allowed rural residing women to have two children, a large rise in fertility rates occurred. Weiqing cited this as another reason for maintaining the policy, claiming that the offspring from this period have reached child-bearing age and thus dropping

restrictions now would inevitably result in another population surge.

This new trend toward circumventing the policy, however, is drawing new attention to a policy that is likely to blame for problems in the country, such as inadequate pensions and large gender imbalances. As a result, migration of wealthy Chinese women to Hong Kong is causing social unrest in the poor rural communities.

Fowler and Qin noted that the new means of dodging the ban have "fueled anger in China, where the growing gap between rich and poor is a sensitive topic."

Rural women who cannot afford the transportation to the hospitals or the bills for obstetrics services—which reportedly average more than \$4,000—are increasingly resentful of the situation.

While pressures on the government from an angered rural class, a demanding upper class, and an agitated Hong Kong health care system continue to mount, China may be forced to find alternative methods of enforcing population control.

China gets the gold in bulldozing

BY ANDREW SPARKS '09
COMMENTARY STAFF

A country that is often the focus of international attention, China has made headlines again in connection with the 2008 Summer Olympics, to be held in Beijing.

SOCIETY

As China races to modernity at breakneck speed, many concerns have been cast aside, with economic and social growth taking precedence in all aspects of modern China. Recently, an archeological goldmine was discovered in Northern Beijing during the construction process for the Olympics. *The New York Times* reports that 700 burial sites, 1,538 artifacts, and more than 6,000 ancient coins have been excavated so far on the grounds where the Olympics are scheduled to be held. Even more amazing than the sheer number of discoveries is that these artifacts date back more than 2,000 years.

These are truly remarkable findings, and similar discoveries are being made all across China. The findings have prompted the government to establish local bureaus to properly explore and handle such sites. Archeology, however, is neither fast nor profitable work; therefore, thieves and bulldozers often loot or plow through the ancient sites before the overloaded professionals have a chance to protect these cultural gems. Like many other modern concerns in China, the laws are there, but enforcement of the laws is another issue. It is relatively common to hear or read about China's lackadaisical human rights record, and the wanton destruction of ancient treasures is just a relatively minor brick in the wall.

It is strange to see the incredible technological feats being accomplished in modern China; glass and steel buildings spring up like wild flowers in cities across the country. Many "open secrets" tinge the country's bright future, as oppressive laws and backwards public policies clamp down on citizens' rights. One such example is the decided lack of religious freedom in China. Christianity, for example, has been growing at an astronomical rate, as people convert by the thousands. Most converts, however, do not attend the state sanctioned churches, and are consequently persecuted without mercy. Often these underground Christians are punished with long jail sentences or years of hard labor.

Another perhaps lesser, yet still detrimental, international faux-pas is the current state of Catholicism in the country. Several times, the obstinate Chinese government has attempted to install bishops in the state-sanctioned Catholic Church without asking approval from the Vatican. Each time the government attempts such an action, the Pope has been forced to sternly admonish the government and consider the chosen "bishops" as out of communion with the proper Catholic Church. Such reckless behavior on the government's part is one step further away from the reconciliation hoped for by the underground (and doctrinally legitimate) Church with the State-Church officially recognized by the government. This, coupled with the atrocious "one child" law, which often leads to forced abortions, gravely jeopardizes Sino-Vatican relations. These acts work against the Chinese government because the vast plague of poverty and illness in China's rural population would be best attended to by the Church, which elsewhere has immense humanitarian

CHINA /Page 11

'Voluntourism' on the rise at PC

Not enough 'alternatives' for students this spring break



BY BETSY ROULEAU '08
COMMENTARY STAFF

CAMPUS

"I've done the typical spring break: Beaches, sun, all that; and it was great . . . I, however, am looking for something more from a spring break . . ."

So reads the opening line from one of the many applications to the Class of 2008's Alternative Spring Break Project. Such a statement is not one most people would expect to hear from a college student, as the term "spring break" produces images of tanning, playing, and "boozing" for most individuals. The trend for service travel, however, is on the rise in the United States. A new phrase has even emerged: "Voluntourism," signifying our generation's union of service and tourism. Increased awareness of world poverty has led to an increase in the amount of people looking to travel—and travel with purpose. Campus Ministry and service groups have helped volunteerism at Providence College to flourish, but more options for alternative breaks need to be provided.

Hundreds of universities in the United States currently offer alternative spring break programs. Boston College, for instance, offers 10 international trips in addition to its "Appalachia" program. There are even more programs unaffiliated with schools and universities; any search engine will produce sites that promise exciting experiences serving diverse populations throughout the world. Hands On, Cross Cultural Solutions, and

Voluntourism.org are just a few of the many programs available to people today.

PC is not a "band wagoner" by any means; its Habitat for Humanity alternative spring break program, sponsored by Campus Ministry, has been active for many years. According to one Habitat for Humanity coordinator, Kerri Daddazio '07, 103 PC students will be volunteering at 11 different sites this year. This number is up from 72 participants and eight sites from last year.

The Class of 2008 also recognized the desire for service trips and therefore created "PCAZ," a trip to the San Carlos Apache Tribe Reservation in San Carlos, Ariz. Working in conjunction with the Feinstein Institute for Public Service, 12 students will spend the week working on the reservation in schools and social organizations. Colleen Rost-Banik, service learning coordinator of the Feinstein Institute summed up the necessity for more service trips. She says that "alternative spring breaks are a great way for students to enhance their own learning about service and various communities that they might not otherwise have a chance to engage. The Feinstein Institute was excited by the opportunity to assist in helping to make the junior alternative spring break to San Carlos a reality. With more student interest in participating in trips that encourage learning and service, we hope that alternative spring breaks at PC will continue to grow."

Program coordinators were flooded with e-mails expressing interest about the trip, as it was something entirely new and different. Coordinators, however, were forced to turn people away, as there were only 12

seats available on the trip.

Student Congress and the Feinstein Institute are not the only ones seeking service. A group of students created its own Habitat for Humanity trip, skipping the Campus Ministry program and working directly with the Habitat organization. Several people will be traveling to Miami, Fla., this March for this separate trip.

These trips rely heavily on fundraising, primarily in the forms of letters to friends, family, and local businesses asking for support. The majority of the time, donations are tax-deductible because they sponsor charitable organizations. These letters are often met with success, as adults are impressed with students' mature desire to serve those less fortunate.

PC should not be surprised at this growing desire to serve and travel. This concept of service learning is one that grows out of the mission, values, and curriculum at PC. The Development of Western Civilization program urges students to explore, learn about, and immerse themselves in the study of other cultures. PC is a place where "solidarity" is a term regularly discussed and studied in theology classes. It's a school that received a \$5 million grant in 1993 to combine service with study. It's a school with a Dominican heritage that stresses connections with others and service—a Dominican heritage that, according to the PC Web site, "balances prayer, study, silence, and communal living with service to others and an engagement with the world."

PC students are doing just that, and they are taking the personal initiative to do it.

SPRING BREAK /Page 11

Queen Pelosi requests a C-37 'chariot'



BY MARK SCIROCCO '10
COMMENTARY STAFF

CULTURE

Having only held the office of speaker of the House for a month, Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) is already putting her personal interests above things like fighting terrorism or even stopping "global warming."

Recently, Pelosi put in a request to the Pentagon to have access to a military jet for her to commute from her home office in San Francisco to Washington, D.C. Prior to 9/11, speakers of the House were not granted access to private jets but had to travel on commercial flights. As a security measure, Pelosi's predecessor, Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.), was given the right to a small 12-passenger commuter jet to fly him from Capitol Hill to Illinois.

Pelosi's request, however, goes above and beyond privileges given to Hastert. On Feb. 1, *The Washington Times* reported "the Democrat is seeking regular military flights not only for herself and her staff, but also for relatives and for other members of the California delegation." A week later, Pelosi had not changed her position. *The Times* reported on Wednesday, Feb. 7: "Mrs. Pelosi wants a larger aircraft [than Hastert's] that can fly to her home district of San Francisco nonstop. She also wants to be able to ferry other members of the congressional delegation, family members, and her staff." According to *breitbart.com*, the commercial version of the military plane that Pelosi is supposedly seeking seats 175-190 passengers.

Republicans in the House have given such names to the jet as "Pelosi One" and a "flying Lincoln bedroom." As a nation at "war," Pelosi's use of such a plane would take funds away from the Pentagon as well as deprive the Air Force of a very valuable piece of military equipment. According to *The Times*, "Currently, three planes assigned to the 89th Airlift Wing at Andrews Air Force Base can make such nonstop flights year-round—the C-32, C-40B and C-37. Such VIP planes are in high demand." And, as a defense source reports, Pelosi would be ". . . effectively taking a bird out of the fleet." For these, and other reasons, *The Times* writes that the "Defense Department sent a letter to Mrs. Pelosi that limits her choice of aircraft to commuter-sized planes that would have to be refueled."

"Judging by her desire for a large, polluting plane that would travel cross country multiple times a year, Pelosi doesn't appear to be too worried about her own contribution to 'global warming.'"

Pelosi's only response to the criticism is that she "would rather travel on the plane with my friends to get some work done. I like my freedom, but there are certain sacrifices you have to make when you are speaker of the House" that would justify this luxury. If only we were all forced to make such sacrifices.

Pelosi's jet request provides a classic

example of the liberal motto, "Do as I say, not as I do." It is all too ironic that only several weeks ago, she announced her plans to create a "Global Warming Committee" to limit damage done to the environment and decrease America's dependence on oil. Judging by her desire for a large, polluting plane that would travel cross country multiple times a year, Pelosi doesn't appear to be too worried about her own contribution to "global warming." Shouldn't Pelosi, as a champion of the environment, set an example for the rest of us? If, as liberals claim, planes have such a destructive impact on the environment, why is Pelosi demanding a plane that will cause far more pollution than the previous speaker's? Apparently, Pelosi's restrictions for preventing "global warming" need not apply to elites such as herself.

The Pentagon's limitation on the size of Pelosi's jet may also prove detrimental to national security. After details of Pelosi's request were leaked to *The Washington Times*, John Murtha (D-Pa.) warned the Pentagon about making Pelosi look bad. "They're making a mistake when they leak it," Murtha said, "because she decides on allocations for them." In other words, Murtha implied that unless Pelosi gets her way with the jumbo jet, she may retaliate by denying Pentagon funding requests.

Pelosi's insistence on this luxury is only a prelude of things to come with the Democrats in power. She gives new meaning to the term "limousine liberal" and reveals how insincere the leaders of that party are with respect to energy conservation and "global warming."

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Rhode Island 02918.

Refueling discussions on energy policies



BY KYLE DRENNEN '07
COMMENTARY STAFF

ENVIRONMENT

At the same time that Al Gore is on the verge of winning an Oscar for his docudrama on global warming an international panel of scientists is meeting in Paris to discuss climate change. Some people on the left are claiming that the war in Iraq is simply "blood for oil." The question of energy and its effects has become a central issue of political debate. All of this comes down to the question of how the United States can obtain the fuel it needs without having to depend on foreign sources or damage the environment.

If you ask many environmentalists this question, you will probably hear about the need to raise gas taxes, reduce fossil fuel emissions, and spend more federal money on researching alternative sources of energy. At first this sounds like a reasonable proposal, but in reality, it only addresses half of the problem. While such suggestions may be environmentally friendly, realistically they do nothing to solve our dependence on foreign oil. To be fair, there are some on the other side who would ignore any effort to research alternative sources of energy, but they would at least consider ways to promote U.S. energy independence.

Of the two values posed in the original question, I feel that energy independence is the more important of the two, given its intimate connection to U.S. national security. However, when I hear people discuss the issue in a way that suggests you are either in favor of alternative fuels or drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), I say why not do both? Last time I checked, the United States government had more than enough resources to research alternative energy while at the same time promoting more drilling of U.S. oil deposits, as well as the building of more oil refineries and nuclear power plants.

The problem with many environmentalists is that they discuss the need to drastically reduce our use of fossil fuels, but then expect us to wait 10 years for a viable

alternative to be developed. At the same time, many citizens constantly decry the fact that the United States relies so heavily upon oil resources throughout the Middle East. While some warn of the potential dangers of global warming sometime in future decades, others are talking about very real economic and security threats that already exist. In my opinion, we can respond to both by developing a comprehensive energy policy that incorporates both alternative energy sources, increasing domestic oil production, and expanding the role of nuclear power.

It is entirely possible that in the future a new source of fuel will be developed that will provide just as much reliable energy as oil does today while also being more environmentally friendly. Right now, however, oil is the best fuel we have. The only way we will be able to take the time to research alternative fuels is to have a steady flow of already reliable fuel found in coal, oil, and nuclear-based power plants while the research is conducted. If we drill in the ANWR, build more oil refineries, and build more nuclear power plants while also researching alternative energy, we cannot only solve our immediate energy dependence problem, but also address more long-term environmental concerns.

In a perfect world, we would be able to simply develop an alternative fuel source in a short period of time, and we would only be getting oil from friendly nations that share all of our political and social values. In reality, alternative energy will take years to develop and to be made widely available to most citizens. In the meantime we must rely on oil from many nations with which we have precarious relationships. We need a realistic energy policy for the short-term with fossil fuels and nuclear power at the center. We can then combine this with a more long-term and idealistic policy of developing new and more environmentally friendly fuels.

Right now, energy independence is our primary interest in the area of energy policy and must be treated as such. This does not mean that we should ignore all other priorities, but it does mean that we need to find a way to subordinate those other priorities to work with our more immediate and serious challenges.

Spring break: Cultivating more service

continued from page 11

As admirable as the efforts of PC students are, more programs need to be offered through the school. There is obviously a need, obviously a desire, and obviously a passion. The Habitat for Humanity trips

and PCAZ are the first steps to developing a wide and varied, travel and service learning program here at the College. My hope is that this will continue to grow to be an integral part of PC's volunteer community.

Can you draw better than this?



If you answered "yes," then please come to *The Cowl* office, Slavin G05, and pick up an application. Commentary needs YOU.



Smokin' it up, French style



BY KELLY JONES '07
COMMENTARY STAFF

WORLD NEWS

You know what irritates me the most about American smokers? It's the fact that a lot of them walk and smoke at the same time, lighting up the millisecond they exit any building and twisting what used to be a relaxing pastime into a form of wasting time. A lot of smokers in the United States don't enjoy smoking—they smoke because they are smokers.

In France, everyone sits down to smoke cigarettes, and they all take their time. Smoky cafés with poor lighting are a Parisian staple and are as much a part of the tourist experience as being French. Unfortunately, the same legislation that

banned smoking indoors in America is due to hit France within a year. Already, smoking is banned in French workplaces, airports, and similar public places. Soon, it will be banned in restaurants and cafés, news that would give any French intellectual from the last century a shock-induced heart attack before he or she could even think about getting lung cancer. Will this ban cause a shift in traditional French culture?

What is most surprising is the lack of uproar in France—most of those interviewed by MSNBC.com seemed indifferent to the upcoming ban. While some claimed that they hoped the ban would help them quit, the majority knew they would continue to smoke. "I will never stop smoking," one woman said. "We have just one life so we should profit from the little pleasures." I suppose this is as much of a French response as one could hope for.

Aqua Teen advertising fiasco a sign of society's uptight ways



BY AIDEN REDMOND '08
COMMENTARY STAFF

CULTURE

Nine times out of 10, bomb threats are no laughing matter. It was not until recently, when the city of Boston was reduced to a state of panic due to dozens of Lite-Brite boxes placed in random locations around the city that I finally had a good excuse to laugh out loud. Traffic was at a standstill, S.W.A.T. teams were dispatched to areas around the city, and hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent to diffuse what some believed to be pipe bombs. The incident could be summed up as follows:

The plan: To start a guerrilla marketing campaign that would advertise the Cartoon Network show *Aqua Teen Hunger Force*.

The "bomb": A homemade Lite-Brite with a magnetic backside that, when illuminated, displayed an image of a character from *Aqua Teen Hunger Force*.

The masterminds behind it all: Twenty-something art school graduate named Peter Bedrovsky with dreadlocks past his shoulders and his sinister accomplice Sean Stevens, who could pass for my roommate's younger brother despite being 28. When asked about the incident during their pre-trial press conference in Massachusetts, they insisted on talking only about hairstyles of the 1970s. As you can already tell, this is a by-the-book case of terrorists at large.

People were undoubtedly outraged by

the entire incident, saying that in a post-9/11 society, such matters should not be handled lightly. But New York City, which was home to a few major events on 9/11, did not bat an eye to the "threat" of Lite-Brites with cartoon characters on them. Los Angeles and Chicago were also victims of Cartoon Network's devious plan, but for some bizarre reason, no one cared. The instant that I saw a picture of the "bombs" that cost Boston nearly \$750,000 to disarm throughout the city, I was in utter disbelief at how this marketing campaign could have been mistaken as a matter of national security.

Since I have seen every episode of *Aqua Teen Hunger Force*, the whole scenario is just ridiculous. Not everyone has heard about the show or could understand why the cartoon character on the Lite-Brite was giving the finger, and a generation gap is admittedly a cause of much confusion. Many in my own generation are even unfamiliar with the show. In retrospect, Turner Broadcasting probably could have chosen a better way to advertise the show, since it ended up costing the company \$2 million to compensate Boston for the damages. All the same, it was Boston's own fault that there was even a bomb scare to begin with. Nine other major cities in the U.S. did not even react to the Lite-Brites; Boston clearly overreacted. Terrorism is always a national concern—even more so since 9/11—but when our way of life is brought to a screeching halt by the threat of flashing cartoon characters, we need to take a step back and just chill out.

China: Construction for '08 Summer Olympics destroys ancient artifacts

continued from page 11

resources and freedom to help people the world.

The minds and hearts of all governments, especially China's, should recognize the need to bring China to spiritual

and social modernity as the world anticipates the 2008 Summer Olympics. Indeed, such carelessness cannot be as easily plowed under or cast aside like so many antiquated remains.

www.TheCowl.com



What a performance: The 49th Grammys



Joe McCormack '07 brings you the best and worst of the 49th Annual Grammy Awards

BY JOE MCCORMACK '07
A&E STAFF

The 49th Grammy Awards ceremony was generally an exciting spectacle, especially considering the difficult task the Recording Academy faced in uniting an

MUSIC FEATURE

incredibly fragmented industry. It would be interesting to try to decipher which is more important: The performances or the awards. In the face of the great performances that graced the stage, it seems that getting up to accept an award is less significant than wow-ing millions of viewers and an audience of "the best of the best." But, the viewers are not deciding who the best of the year is and getting an award like Album of the Year should be a great and deserved honor.

The big winners were the Dixie Chicks, who took home Album of the Year for *Taking the Long Way Home*, and Record of the Year and Song of the Year for "Not Ready to Make Nice." The subject matter of the latter deals with the fallout of the group's vocal criticism of President George Bush, which gave the group its big break after receiving widespread attention from the media. Since the trio has become a crossover hit, it has won a handful of Grammys, and politics, along with the media attention, might have something to do with the wins.

The winner of Best New Artist was Carrie Underwood of American Idol fame. She beat out several artists who write their own material, including Imogen Heap and Corinne Bailey Rae.

The performances were, on a whole, excellent. The best of the night may have been the focus on singer/songwriters, introduced poignantly by Stevie Wonder, who said we should put the kibosh on any pessimism about the state of singer/songwriters. The performance backed him up. Corinne Bailey Rae showed off her beautiful, delicate voice, beautiful delicate melodies, and hypnotic groove, singing and playing guitar for "Like a Star." John Legend, who was a vision of elegance as usual at his piano, and John Mayer, who burned on his Strat to the surprise of many in the audience not familiar with his axe-skills, accompanied Rae and played songs of their own.



The Dixie Chicks (right) took home three Grammys on Sunday night, for Album of the Year, Record of the Year, and Song of the Year. Justin Timberlake and Robyn (above) perform.

Another one of the defining performances of the night was by Justin Timberlake (or JT), who was accompanied by a massive band and a small orchestra for "What Goes Around." The song was a surprise to those who only know him for his 'N Sync days and his early solo pop. This song is multi-layered, dense, and symphonic at times. Not only that, but JT jammed on the ivory keys (he also played guitar later in the show). The song climaxed with a multi-voiced, challenging melodic section with counterpoint galore. Who'd a thunk it?

The Grammys also featured performances by singers Beyoncé, Mary J. Blige, and Christina Aguilera, who all showed off their vocal fireworks over the same kind of gooey song structure—a lazy four with enough snare drum to keep you awake—that has defined the "power ballad" for years. Shakira and Wyclef Jean gave a stirring and fun performance of their hit "Hips Don't Lie."



WWW.NYTIMES.COM

With all the youth that pop, country, and hip-hop brought to the show, rock was left with the Red Hot Chili Peppers and the Police—two Hall of Fame bands that are past their prime and can't match the energy of their performances 10 and 20 years ago, respectively.

The only bad performance of the night was by James Blunt. He somehow was nominated for Record of the Year and Album of the Year. Yet, he plays the most banal, self-important type of soft-pop-rock, designed to sell not the music but an unthreatening, good-looking, marginally talented male as a sensitive guy, someone both your mom and your friends would say is a catch. His lack of anything special was highlighted by the stripped-down nature of his performance. I guess the aim was to showcase his voice and his honesty. Instead it showcased the failings of the song he co-wrote, "You're Beautiful," with its fifth grade depth and fifth grade complexity.

It is tempting to talk about who was not

there and who did not get awards. I will limit my comments on snubs to one. Gnarles Barkley conjured up the greatest pop track of the year, hands down, with "Crazy." Yet, he lost Record of the Year to the Dixie Chicks. Now, that Dixie Chicks song is good, but there is nothing particularly special about it and it doesn't have the things that would make it Record of the Year: Production style, originality, genre-bending.

"Crazy" is not only the best pop song of 2006; it is original and catchy, while being danceable, groovy, mysterious, and fun. It lands up there with "Hey Ya" and "Since U Been Gone" as being the three pop songs of this millennium that just have it. At one point, it was being played on rock stations, pop stations, and hip-hop stations all at the same time. As my friend Dan said: "I walked into my optometrist's office—they don't even have computers; they use typewriters—and 'Crazy' was playing." I'm glad it was nominated, at least.

In Case You Missed It...

If you were at Manhattan Club One last weekend you would have gotten more than your cover fee's worth. Single mother Britney Spears, feeling very unhappy with her outfit for her night of dancing at the club, did the only logical thing: She stripped down to her underwear and started dirty dancing with another half-naked female. According to some reports, Spears later blacked out. In light of this incident and ex-husband-to-be Kevin Federline's comments that Spears has hosted sex parties for her female friends, people are now questioning her sexuality. The other relevant question is: How little self respect can a human being have?

Taste of the Town

with Megan Bishop '07
Portfolio Editor

Citron
5 Memorial Blvd.
Providence, R.I.
(401) 621-WINE

From the outside, Citron appears to be a chic, hip cocktail bar. At first, my fellow diner and I were not even sure this “restaurant” served food at all. Upon further investigation, however, we discovered it does, fortunately, serve food. Unfortunately, our first misconception would not be our last.

When we entered Citron, which classifies itself as a “wine bar and bistro,” we were seated promptly. As we read through the colorful and informative menu, I was impressed at its claim to serve organic products, and that the menu was printed on recycled paper. Having watched *An Inconvenient Truth* more than once, my preference for all things earth-friendly has increased. I was impressed. Until, of course, I realized that our table cover was not a reusable table cloth, but a sheet of paper, more suitable for a child with a crayon than for fine dining. I began to wonder if Citron was attempting to present itself in a positive light that it did not deserve.

As we browsed the selection of appetizers, which included such standards as bruschetta, fried calamari, and crab cakes, as well as the unique barbecue pulled pork quesadillas and duck confit spring rolls, our waiter brought out a delicious and well-presented dish of homemade pita bread. The bread was accompanied by a reduced balsamic dipping sauce, a mixture of sundried tomatoes, and pickled calamata olives with cubes of tofu. This was, by



MEGAN BISHOP '07/The Cowl

far, the highlight of the meal—and it was free. We decided on the crab cakes and fried calamari for our starters.

In the meantime our friendly and very helpful waiter returned to explain the wine tasting flights. For a moderate fee (\$11.00-\$28.00), you could sample a trio wines made from related grape variety. Tempting, but the responsibilities of my life convinced me to stick to one glass of Chardonnay. It was delicious, but had something floating in it. Ick. Alcohol kills all germs, though, right?

Soon after, our appetizers arrived. They were delicious, but run of the mill. Though I would place their quality somewhere above T.G.I. Friday’s, I would not again pay \$12.95 for the crab cakes. Also, my fellow diner nearly choked on a stringy piece of calamari. And, if he had, and I was not properly trained in the art of the

Heimlich maneuver, there would be no one to save him, as we were the only diners in the restaurant. He refrained from complaining, however, because he was too busy dipping everything he could find in the smoked chili mayonnaise sauce that accompanied the dish.

We then selected our entrées, choosing Kataifi-crusted shrimp (\$19.95) and double thick pork chops (\$20.95). Our selection was difficult as there was a variety of delicious-sounding options including a portobello mushroom “steak” (\$16.95), olive oil poached wild king salmon (\$22.95), sushi quality ahi tuna (\$24.95), Long Island duck breast, and a burger “acting badly.”

As we sat waiting for our entrées we couldn’t help but notice that we were drinking bottled Fiji water. Refreshing, but at \$6 a bottle, we would have both preferred to be drinking tap water, had we

been asked. We also noticed that the decorator for Citron truly embraced the idea of citrus. There were framed photographs of oranges, pomegranates, and lemons adorning the walls. The color of the seats and tablecloths, (underneath the paper) were the colors of citrus fruits. Each of the booths had decorative pillows, creating a more casual feeling in a fine dining atmosphere.

When our meals arrived we were anything but pleased. The presentation was impressive, but the taste left much to be desired. The Kataifi shrimp was lightly fried and set over a risotto. This risotto, though, claiming to be in a blood orange sauce, was creamy white and very undercooked—so much so that it was almost inedible. The shrimp was flavorless and ordinary. My accompanying diner had a much better experience, enjoying incredibly tender pork, though the flavoring was somewhat bland. His mashed potatoes may have come from a box, though. He and I both agreed that the plate of homemade pita bread was the highlight of the meal, besides our dessert. He enjoyed a coconut creme brulée which was served in an actual coconut shell. Again, it was good but not overly impressive.

Our experience at Citron was enjoyable but nothing special and definitely not worth the money that we spent. The presentation of the meals, as well as the restaurant itself, was somewhat misleading and disappointing. The wait staff was incredibly helpful and friendly. I wonder, however, if it would have been that way had there been more people at the restaurant—which is never a good thing to wonder about for anyplace.

GRADE: B-

Birth of a cannibal

Hannibal Rising *tells the story of Hannibal Lecter’s transformation into a top-notch serial killer*

BY OWEN LARKIN '07
A&E STAFF

For nearly two decades, America has been captivated by one of the most intriguingly evil and overwhelmingly charming characters ever to make his way to the screen. Hannibal Lecter is as morally vacant as a human can be, but he is set apart from other killers by his brutal intelligence and refined culture, which keep him steps ahead of his foes. —Sure, he eats people, enjoying a nice meal of human liver, fava beans and Chianti. Yet, his humor, sense of honor, and fine manners prevent him from being an entirely hated serial killer. Simply put, he’ll put a napkin on his lap, use the correct fork, and pick the proper wine as he feasts on your brain.

Hannibal Rising is set apart from the rest of the series written by Thomas Harris (*The Silence of the Lambs*, *Hannibal*, *Manhunter*, and its 2002 remake *Red Dragon*), because unlike the other films, one sympathizes with Hannibal for a good portion of the movie. I can compare this to the *Star Wars* prequels, in which one roots for a young Anakin Skywalker even though one knows he will end up killing thousands as Darth Vader. It’s something like seeing a picture of baby Hitler and thinking he is cute.

Hannibal Rising begins in Lithuania in 1944, as the Lecter family lives amidst the chaos of the Eastern front of World War II. Hannibal’s parents are murdered and the 10-year-old boy is left alone with his

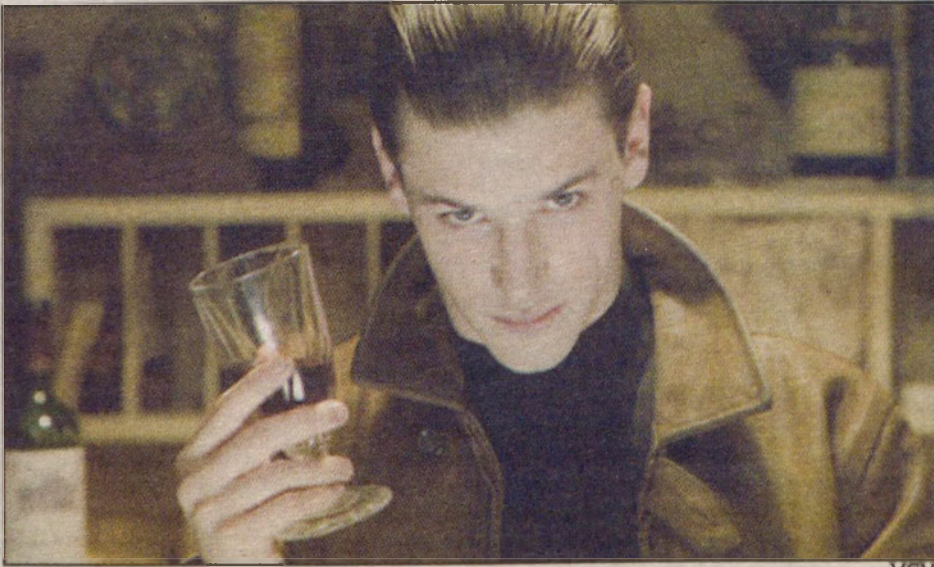
younger sister until Nazi-wannabe mercenaries hold the children up in the Lecter family hunting lodge. Hannibal soon witnesses the brutal murder of his sister as the men make her into a nice stew and eat her in front of his eyes.

For the next eight years, he is a mute and lives life as a traumatized orphan plagued by ghastly dreams until he flees to Paris to live with his rich Japanese aunt. It is here that he begins to devour culture, enters medical school, and learns the tools that will be required to carry out his cold and calculated work against his enemies, whom he tries to track down.

This is as much as I will offer for the plot, but based further plot developments, one can see why Hannibal turns into a monster-like character. His humanity died along with his sister, and he has been stripped of simple human compassion.

The difficulty in making this movie is finding an actor to play the part without simply trying to emulate the stellar performances by the formidable Anthony Hopkins. Gaspard Ulliel, a French actor who is of little note in American cinema, does the job aptly. Although he is not spectacular, he avoids playing a caricature of Hannibal and is able to pull off the cold though ever-amused cannibal.

Perhaps the best part of this film is the overall tone. The plot is a bit jumpy, but the feel of the movie puts you on the side of Hannibal until his transformation is complete. One truly fights with him for the majority of the film, but he passes up many chances to regain his heart. If you enjoy the character, then this film is a



MGM

must-see. The screenplay was written by Thomas Harris, so even in the few instances where the movie departs from the book, the decisions were calculated and wise.

The French title of the film is *Les Origines du Mal* (*The Origins of Evil*) which, although interesting, doesn’t ring the same way in English. It is, however, better than some of the possible titles that ended up in the studio wastebasket, such as *Young Hannibal Behind the Mask* and *The Lecter Variation: The Story of Young Hannibal Lecter*. I think they made the right choice.

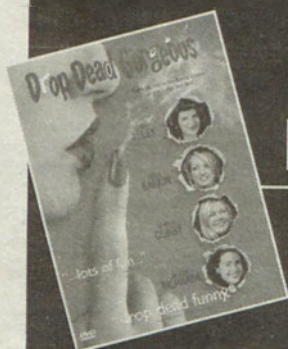
GRADE: A-

What is this again? Chianti? Yes, I like it very much: Gaspard Ulliel plays a younger version of the world’s most notorious cannibal, Hannibal Lecter.

<i>Hannibal Rising</i>	
Directed by: Peter Webber	
Starring: Gaspard Ulliel and Helena Lia Tachovska	
Runtime: 117 minutes	
Rated R	

Picks of the Week

By Claire Pevoto '10
A&E Staff



Movie

Drop Dead Gorgeous
Directed by Michael Patrick Jann

Beauty pageants aren't all lipstick and tap dancing. In this "mockumentary," one mom is willing to kill for victory. Somewhat dark but entirely hilarious, this movie pokes fun of pageants just as *Waiting for Guffman* and *Best in Show* do theater and dog shows, respectively. Both subtle and over-the-top humor permeate this clever satire.

Music



Interventions and Lullabies
The Format

Interventions and Lullabies isn't The Format's latest album, but it is certainly the group's best (although newer stuff is great, too). Some songs, such as "The First Single," are both upbeat and insightful at the same time, while others like "On Your Porch" are poignant without being too maudlin. It's a fine line, but The Format walks it comfortably.



Book

A Fine Balance
By Rohinton Mistry

When India declared a State of Emergency in 1975, its citizens suffered the cruelties of repression, exploitation, and violence. Thrown together in the upheaval, a widow, a college student, and two tailors depend on each other for survival. The ending, while far from happy, necessarily removes the rose-colored glasses that so typically characterize our American worldview.

Infinity On High falls short

BY JESS MCCAULEY '07
A&E STAFF

Fall Out Boy
Infinity On High
Island Records

ALBUM REVIEW

By now Fall Out Boy's recipe for success is obvious: Add one part insanely catchy hook, three parts sing-along chorus, one part bridge, a sprinkling of bleeding heart emo lyrics, a handful of punny song titles, and bake in a scenester kiln at high-profile heat.

Countless bands have imitated the band's look, its sound, and its lead singer Patrick Stump's distinct, no-seriously-what-the-hell-is-he-saying delivery. Few, though, have achieved the album sales and amount of exposure that the band has received in the past four years.

With the release of Fall Out Boy's fourth full-length album, *Infinity On High*, it is probably also safe to say that Jay-Z hasn't introduced the record of any other band in Fall Out Boy's genre with a few choice words to quash the "haters." Despite the hype, one question remains: Is this actually good music?

The first single, "Thriller," is catchy enough. It features robust, distortion-laden guitar riffing by guitarist Joe Trohman and vocalist Stump's clear warbling in a manageable midtempo beat. The rhythm is picked up a bit in the clap along hook of "The Take Over, The Break's Over" and "This Ain't a Scene, It's an Arms Race," a song that makes me glad my roommate's laptop is broken so I no longer hear it blaring on a regular basis. "I'm Like a Lawyer..." sounds like the bastard child of Maroon 5 and Peter Dinklage's "The Glory of Love," with the addition of arena rock guitars meant to showcase Stump's vocals instead of the musical arrangement.

All of this is well and good, but I found myself pressing "next track" about one minute into each of these songs. Fall Out Boy's musical style, song structure—and even the group's lyrics—are very predictable. I like to apply routines to brushing my teeth, eating meals, and perhaps even showering. But predictability in music is not a good thing in my book.

As if to refute my claims, Fall Out Boy tries to throw a few curveballs. "Golden," an attempt at a piano ballad coupled with lush vocal harmony, is the most obvious departure from the band's established pop-punk sound. Despite the rich vocals, the song sounds forced and, once again, I was assessing the status of my fingernails by the halfway point.

"Hum Hallelujah" also tries to mix it up by incorporating a gospel chorus to sing Jeff Buckley's famous "Hallelujah" hymn,



Sugar, we're goin' infinity on high: Fall Out Boy wants to distinguish itself from run-of-the-mill emo, but the group's new album cannot meet its lofty musical goals.



but the rest of the song falls flat around it. The orchestral beginnings of "Thanks for the Memories" are promising, but the rest of the track sounds exactly like any other song that Fall Out Boy has ever written. The band also felt compelled to exhibit bassist Pete Wentz's hardcore roots as he, um, "sings" in "Carpal Tunnel of Love." His pseudo-core stylings made me feel more awkward than that time I fell down the stairs in front of Ray Café during the lunchtime rush. I will probably put "Bang the Doldrums" and "Don't You Know Who I Think I Am," on my workout mix, but that's also where I house such artists as Ace of Base and the theme song from *Team America: World Police*. There is a solid two or three songs worth of music that is entertaining, but that is not enough to make an album live up to its hype.

I guess the answer to my question is this: If you're a 13-year-old girl with the attention span of a hamster, this is good music. If you cannot stand instrumental innovation, progressive experimentation, or anything that stretches the bounds of pop song structure, this is good music. If you are Pete Wentz's biggest fan and actually downloaded those pictures of his bait and tackle that appeared on the Internet after his Sidekick was hacked, this is good music. If you judge the quality of a song

based on your inability to get it out of your head, you will probably love this album. It is very difficult to write this article without making it a tome assailing everything that is wrong with popular music today.

In this age of instant technological gratification, MySpace pages, and cultural obsession with the fabulous lives of people who have become absolutely detached from reality, it must be difficult for a band as high profile as Fall Out Boy to keep the public eye on what is supposedly most important: The music.

Unfortunately, Fall Out Boy is a band that has become such a caricature of itself that "keeping it real" is no longer possible. The release of *Infinity On High* showcases the emerging dichotomy that seems to exist within the band itself, separating drummer Andy Hurley, Trohman, and Stump from Wentz, a guy who apparently spent more time last year in gossip columns than in the studio. Before you can even assess the music you have to trudge through the hype that the band has created for itself. By the time the first track of *Infinity On High* starts, you're too tired and jaded to hear it.

GRADE: C+

DOWNLOAD: "Bang the Doldrums," "Don't You Know Who I Think I Am"

So you think you know arts and entertainment?

Take the A&E Quiz:

Who is the father of
Anna Nicole Smith's baby daughter?

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The Cowl Portfolio

Drums, bells, and a battle with cynicism

BY JENNIFER McCAFFERTY '07
PORTFOLIO STAFF

The moment we stepped in the door, I had an odd premonition that this was a bad idea.

It's not that I didn't want to hang out with Liz. Up until three days ago when we'd arrived in town for a mutual friend's wedding, we hadn't seen each other in years—and this was the last time we'd get to go out before parting ways. Plus, the bar we'd chosen usually guaranteed a good time, and tonight it featured a band we had never heard but apparently would "melt our faces," according to Liz's brother who knew the drummer.

However, as we walked toward the back of the bar to get a table near the stage where the band was setting up their instruments, we heard the muffled beeping of Liz's cell phone.

"Oh good, he got my message," she said as she abruptly stopped walking and began digging through her enormous handbag to fish out her phone. My heart sank a little as I waited for Liz to check her text message. Though I couldn't read what it said, I suspected that I would neither have to ask nor wait long to hear its contents. Sure enough, as soon as Liz stowed the phone, she began talking.

"It was Greg," she said, as if I hadn't already guessed. "He just got out of work, and now he's going to some party with his roommate Jake. He said he'll call me later. I hope so, because we really haven't been talking as much lately, and sometimes I just miss him so much..."

"You saw him four days ago," I interrupted before I could stop myself. Immediately I regretted having spoken. Cynicism had a way of getting me into trouble, especially

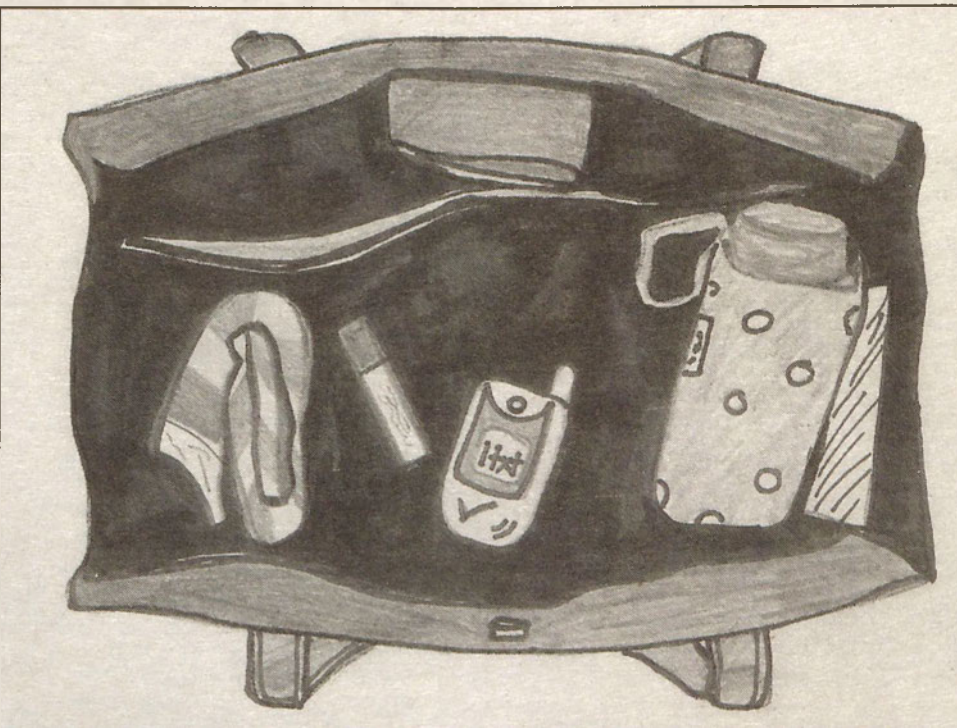


ILLUSTRATION BY KATIE RUTKOWSKI '07/The Cowl

when it reared its head in conversations about Liz's boyfriend of two months who felt compelled to leave her text messages reporting his latest movement at the top of every hour. The problem was not that Liz didn't get mad but that she got sentimental.

Sure enough, a dreamy sort of smile was creeping across her face, and as we sat down at a table, she poured the worms out of the can I had inadvertently opened.

"Yeah, but that's a long time for us," she said, hazily focusing on the stage where one

of the band members was doing a sound check. "We're so used to spending all our free time together that it's weird when we're not together." She paused, then gave a short laugh before continuing. "Plus, it probably doesn't help that I've been surrounded by wedding paraphernalia for the past few days. It gets you thinking about the future, you know?"

She re-directed her gaze toward me, the ethereal smile still pasted on her face. I returned her look with one of slightly horri-

fied surprise. This was not the Liz with whom I had grown up. *That* Liz would never be so rash as to start thinking about marriage after two months of dating, especially when she was dating a guy like Greg. I hadn't met Greg, but I had heard so much about him, courtesy of the new and ridiculous Liz, that our lack of an actual meeting seemed irrelevant. He sounded like a good guy in general, but I wondered how he could possibly be good for a sensible person like Liz if the sweet nothings he whispered to her echoed in her ears like church bells in June.

My expression was not lost on her. Her smile faltered a bit.

"What?" she asked.

I quickly racked my mind to come up with a euphemized response, and soon realized just how strong a hold cynicism had on me as I failed to find some sugar with which to coat my reply.

"Liz, you don't sound like yourself," I finally said. "I've never heard you get mushy about a guy, but you're starting to sound obsessive. You're still in the honeymoon phase of this relationship, and you're already thinking about marriage and *actual* honeymoons..."

I trailed off as I saw her take in my words. I had the horrible sensation that I had hurt her, but the fact was that she *was* being overly enthusiastic about Greg. She needed to take it down a notch, for her own good—

"Well, maybe this one's different," she interrupted my thoughts. She had resumed her weird smile, but it contained a hint of defiance now. I had no reply. We were silent for a few minutes.

The band began to play, not a face-melting anthem, but a quiet ballad. It was not the first unmet expectation that night.

Care packages, emotional breakdowns, and irony

BY LINDSAY WENGLOSKI '10
PORTFOLIO STAFF

I have begun to despair. A book I ordered online took a week longer than the shipping invoice promised to get to my PC mailbox. I still haven't received the care

ESSAY

package my parents supposedly sent two weeks ago. On top of that, a book I needed for a paper two weeks ago just managed to limp into my hands from God knows where. Yet, somehow my roommate manages to get packages hand-delivered by the Pony Express. I don't get it.

It's not that my e-mail account is malfunctioning. I get notifications on a semi-regular basis—*ish*. OK, sometimes the CDs that I ordered languish in the mailroom like political dissidents in a Cuban prison, but that's not my fault. I didn't get the memo.

What is even worse than simply not getting the e-mail notification is getting that lovely message and skipping happily to the mailroom, only to realize that it was a mistake.

"My bad. 2345. Not 2354. Oops."

Not that I'm complaining. Oh no, certainly not. It must be karmic retribution. I had to have maimed or at least tripped someone in a past life. That has to be the explanation. After all, my roommate has no such problems with the merry old Postmaster General. She is simply amazing when it comes to all things mail—no delays, no dents on the boxes—nothing! It could be a rainy, windy, Noah's Ark sort of day, and she will still get her care package from home on time. Heck, it could even be a Sunday and the package would be there. My God, it's a miracle.

No, no, it's really not. But I like to think

it is. It helps to justify the fact that all of my packages hide, get lost, or die en route. I swear my Friar Box is the Bermuda Triangle of Providence College. Bad karma included.

To add delicious, chocolately goodness to irony, the other day, while I was anxiously awaiting the arrival of a still M.I.A. package from home (hoping against hope that there would be a plethora of disgustingly sweet edibles I definitely didn't need but would end up eating anyway), my roommate wandered into the room with a box from her mom. Tucked safely inside the box was an unassuming tin-foil package containing my demise. And by demise, I mean brownies from the GODS.

Oh, sure, on the outside, they looked like these petite little things. Absolute pushovers, as desserts go. How wrong I was. I succumbed out of politeness and ate one at my roommate's urging. That was my fatal mistake. Instantly, I was swamped in fudge-filled goodness. Not too chewy, not too gooey, just right, by golly. Just right! Actually, more than just right. Perfection! Orgasmic in a completely asexual way. Heavenly, but with less seraphim. Who knew brownies could be this good? Not me.

So naturally, I had to have another one. And then, when my roommate left for the gym, I had another one. To be fair, our roommate contract does state that we've agreed to share food with each other. I've got the law backing me up on this one. I have a right to eat brownies if they're too addictively amazing for their own good. After rationalizing my mini-binge to myself, I downed my guilt with a glass of milk and flopped onto my beanbag chair.

Maybe my care package will come tomorrow.



TIM PISACHICH '07/The Cowl

poetry Corner

Paint

BY NICOLE AMARAL '10
PORTFOLIO STAFF

I wish only to paint with words
I've forgotten how to speak
From the black and white bottom
Of a soul, shamefaced, tight-lipped
Comes the brush, ink-tipped
Drawing together the language of
Expressions,
grown weary from misuse.
They sit lifeless on the canvas
A novella of nothing,
Cliché-ridden imaginings,
Adolescent optimism
Posing as art.
The brush drops to the ground,
hours melt,
I begin to feel heavy
As exhaustion pulls me inside
myself, and there I give up
But not before putting a Post-It of hope
On top, for next the time
I feel so inclined to pull my beloved mess
Out from under the bed.

Prerequisite to Self

BY LIA ARMATAS
ASST. PORTFOLIO EDITOR

Hell came loose last night—
Steam rose out of brick,
Hades' beard turned white and
I heard him whistling,
Happily and satisfied.

I woke up devastated.
Hurt dripped off the corner of the roof and into my eyes.
We hate to chase away what's left inside.
We have chinks in our armor,
And this is what I think—

It isn't the booze or the birds
In the morning
Or the smell of grass growing—
It's the linen around me.
The straightjacket with a
Thread count.

Inside my empty bottle I was
constructing a lighthouse while
all the others were making
ships. —Charles Simic



Dear Not Bobby,
The surest way to
a woman's heart is
through her stomach.
But, I don't know
any girl who would
break up with a guy
simply because he
could not cook.
Unless he gave her
food poisoning—

intentionally. Hopefully, this is not your
plan for the evening.

If you really cannot cook, and you have
no desire to try and possibly face failure,
then I suggest you do what I do weekly—
order take-out. There is nothing wrong
with accepting defeat and realizing your
weak points; especially if it saves your
date from a potentially awful meal.

There are plenty of great restaurants in
the area to choose from (Café 412, R.I.P.).
Some of the best restaurants in Providence
have take out options available, and if you
have a car the city is your oyster. If you are
without a car, consider the delivery
options. And no, Golden Crust is not an
acceptable date food prior to 1:00 a.m.
Shanghai, Rocco's and LaSalle Pizza are
nice options, if you select appropriate
items from the menu. Think more like big
salad, pasta, bread, not meat lovers' pizza.

And remember, presentation is every-
thing. So whatever you order, take it out of
the box and put it on a plate. Everything
looks better without the plastic.

Kisses,

Tiffany

This Week...

If you give me salmonella, I will stop loving you

Dear Tiffany & Earl,

I invited this girl over for dinner. The problem is that I didn't realize she
would say yes. And, oh yeah, I don't know how to cook. Now I feel as
though I have shot myself in the foot and potentially ruined my chances. I'm
supposed to make dinner two days from now, and my budget is tight—but I
really want to impress her. I want something that is easy to make so that I
can't mess it up and ultimately embarrass myself. I need help—and fast!

—Not Bobby Flay, but cooler than Tyler Florence

*Do you ever feel lost inside, like the whole world is laughing
but you don't get the joke? We understand these feelings.
Please write to us. We most likely won't laugh at you.*

Write to Tiffany and Earl!
AskTiffanyEarl@yahoo.com

Tiffany & Earl

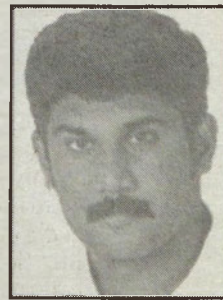
*Making PC an emotionally stable
place, one letter at a time...*

Dear Bobby,

I am a dynamo not
only in the bedroom,
but also in the
kitchen. Not a natu-
ral-born cook? Don't
have a ton of money?
NOT A PROBLEM. I
recommend making
my own brush popper
bruschetta appetizer
and Chicken Cacciatore for the entrée.

For the bruschetta, you will need two
whole tomatoes (about a cup), two minced
garlic cloves, 2 tablespoons of diced fresh
basil, 1 teaspoon of olive oil, a loaf of
French bread, and a whole lot of parmesan
cheese. Slice the French bread about a half
an inch thick and slap em on a baking
sheet. Toss them in the oven on broil for
four to five minutes or until toasty. While
that's happening, mix everything else
together except the cheese. Flip the bread
over after the five minutes, add a scoop of
the tomato/garlic mix and sprinkle with
parmesan. I tend to dab a little more oil on
each individual piece of bread to make it
brown and crisp, but whatever. Then toss
back in the oven to broil for another
minute. BAM. Part one done.

Now that I think about it, you probably
won't even need to make the entrée. Just
skip it. Instead, buy a chocolate cake and a
cheap bottle of wine, and cut straight to
what matters. The next day, you'll be noth-
ing short of her new favorite person.



EARL

Over There . . .

Stories from Students Abroad

Four juniors studying abroad in Europe will check in with us periodically throughout the semester, narrating life from the other side of the Atlantic

It's a small, small world after all

BY AUDREY LEBRUN '08
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As a freshman at Providence College three years ago, it seemed that everyone I met was from Massachusetts, Connecticut, or New York. Consequently, the "name game" was played on a daily basis:

STUDY ABROAD "Oh, you're from Boston? Do you know so-and-so? OH MY GOD you DO? Wow!" The world seemed to get smaller with each passing day, and friendships were formed through friendships that already existed.

Sophomore year, my neighbors in Aquinas Hall already knew several of my best friends from home and this past fall, the world shrunk a little more as friends from high school came to visit, played the name game with my friends, and made their own shocking discoveries about shared acquaintances.

At PC, it began to seem like all anonymity was lost. Inevitably someone on my floor knew who I was through a friend, or a friend of a friend, and so on. But soon, the name game lost its zeal, and quite frankly, I grew tired of being interrogated about who I knew.

As a visiting student at a large university in Ireland, it is pretty easy to be as anonymous as I want to be. I can walk all over the large campus with my iPod on and never cross paths with one familiar face throughout the course of a day. However, once you start talking with other visiting students, the name game starts up like a Beirut tournament on a Friday night.

As it turns out, a lot of the Americans that I have met here, coincidentally, are from Massachusetts, Connecticut, or New York. More often than not, when someone hears that I go to Providence, a name is

thrown out that I recognize, and for a few minutes we make a connection through our mutual friend back in the States. You might not know it, but you could be the reason two strangers start talking and eventually become friends.

This past weekend, the world shrank a bit more for me when I decided to go to Dublin. I planned the trip with two girls whom I met from Fordham University, and had every intention of staying in a hostel until we busted out the name game. Through the handy aid of facebook, we discovered that we shared a mutual acquaintance who just happened to be abroad in Dublin and who was delighted to have us. As I sat in her apartment Friday night, I realized that I didn't really know any of the people I was enjoying dinner and drinks with when over here, though, details like that don't matter. In a country where you're a foreigner, any such connection is exciting. Maybe I only knew our host in Dublin through my roommate at PC, and maybe I had only met her once, but for the weekend she was a friend. It is nice to have as many as possible here in Ireland, particularly when they reside in fun places to visit.

The name game has made a serious comeback in my life, and I am pretty grateful for it. Sometimes the sheer excitement of realizing that I share a friend with the stranger in front of me is enough to ignite a conversation that transcends the topic of that shared friend, and that is how some of my closest friendships here have begun. Realizing that this world is truly much smaller and interconnected than I knew has been refreshing in a place so different from home. I am no longer annoyed by incessant name gaming, because the more we all play, the more friends we seem to acquire.



Church of Christ, Dublin, Ireland

AUDREY LEBRUN '08/The Cowl

Learning to love *canard*—that's French for duck

BY MANDEE ADAMS '08
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Since coming to Providence College as a freshman, I have known that I wanted to study abroad. As a French major, I knew that it was not only something that I wanted to do, but also something I had to do to be successful in life. So here I sit, two-and-a-half years later, writing an article about it for *The Cowl*. However, I am not sitting in my room in Providence, R.I.

Instead, I find myself sitting in a quaint bedroom in Cannes, a small city in the south of France. Last semester, when I looked out my Suite 410 window, all I could see was the softball field, with lovely Eaton Street as the backdrop. Well, things have changed a bit. Now, when I look out my window, I see a courtyard full of palm trees. Perhaps the best part of the view is that Eaton Street has been replaced with the Mediterranean Sea. As the sun shines through, I almost need sunglasses inside. I have yet to see a cloud here, and if it weren't for the slightly chilly sea breeze, I would be tanning in the beginning of February.

Life certainly is different here in France. The people have no concept of stress. They can sit in cafés for hours worrying about nothing. Perhaps this way of life will rub off on me a bit, and I will return home with a better sense of appreciation for the little things. The streets of Cannes are lined with little shops, restaurants, cafés and homes. There is a part of town known as The Old Village, where one



MANDEE ADAMS '08/The Cowl

The view from Mande Adams' bedroom in Cannes, France. We're not jealous at all. Really, not even a little bit.

can climb countless stairs for a phenomenal view of the seaport and the famous "La Croisette" avenue. This is where the famous Cannes Film Festival is held each May. While walking through town, everyone is so kind. I have yet to meet a French

person who is not willing to help me find my way, which leads me to believe that the American stereotype that the French are stuck up may not be entirely true. I also find myself thankful for my experience with the French language. Speaking with

local salesmen and even the college staff has proven that my lack of confidence in speaking a foreign language may not be completely warranted. After all, that is what I came here to do—to speak the language and get to know the locals. One cannot learn a country's culture from simply visiting monuments. Sure, culture has something to do with a country's identity, but you can't truly know what life is like somewhere until you converse with the people who have lived there all their lives.

In Cannes, the city known as the "world capital of festivals," there is plenty of culture. During the next few months of my life, I will be sampling French cuisine, tasting wine with French *sommeliers*, traveling the Mediterranean coastline, attending all the screenings of the International Film Festival, and learning French from the staff at *Le College International de Cannes*.

Having only been here for two days, I can only wonder what life will be like for me throughout the next four months. I know that I will love it because I already do. But I do not know the specifics: Who will I meet? What will I learn? Will something drastic occur that changes me? Only time will tell. While in France, I plan to live euphorically in the moment. After all, when will I get a chance to do just this again in my life? One thing is for sure: There will be things that make me laugh, cry, or even question myself and my beliefs. Though I have been here for less than one week, this has already happened. Last night I had *canard* for dinner, and for those of you who don't know, that's French for duck.

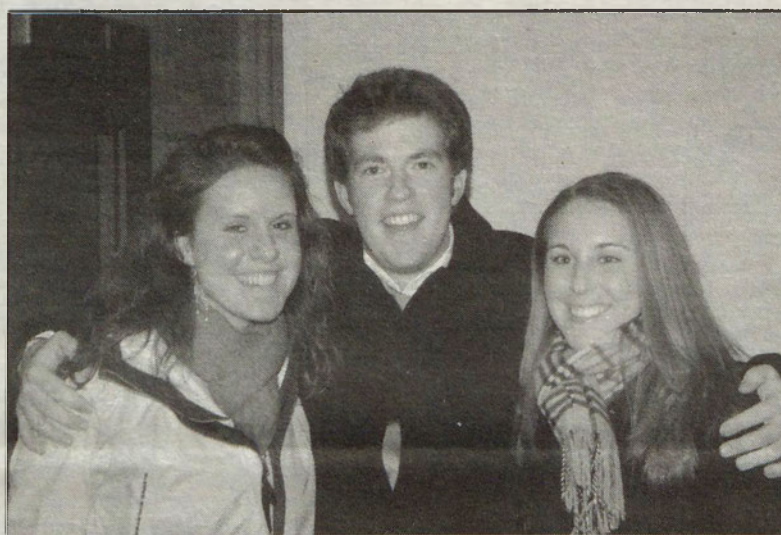
What would you do if there were no school tomorrow?



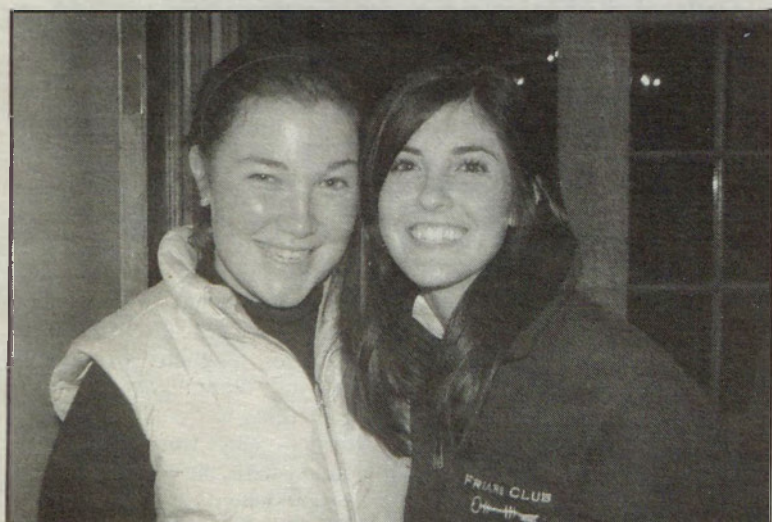
"Go sledding with Ricky LaBontee [the roving photographer]!"
Erin Destefanis '09



"Go to Louie's!"
Elizabeth Reilly '09



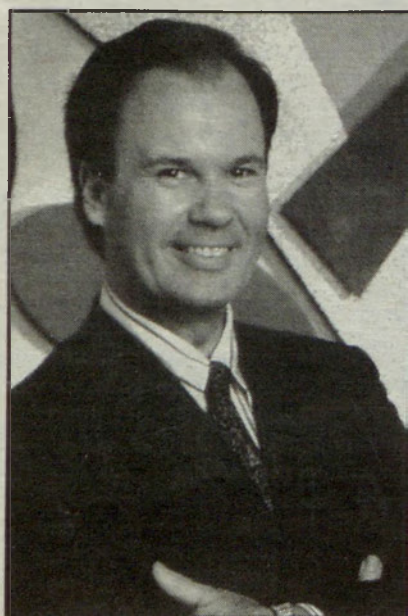
"Celebrate with Spencer Hirst for his 21st birthday!"
Elizabeth Nuzzolese '08, Spencer Hirst '09, Blathnaid Mahon '09



"Play board games."
Katie Breen '08, Gulia Muca '07



"Hang out with the girls volleyball team."
Paul Coyne '08



I'll probably spend my day off not worrying about Zach Morris or Bayside High and enjoy a delicious burger down at The Max!

—Mr. Belding

Friars Scoreboard

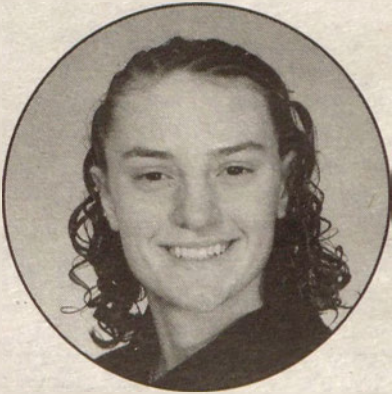
Scores -- Standings -- Statistics -- Schedules -- Standouts

Standouts



Max Smith
Men's Track
Junior—Dunedin, New Zealand

Smith qualified for the NCAA Championships by competing in the Tyson Invitational on Friday, Feb. 9, and Saturday, Feb. 10. He finished first in the 3,000-meter race.



Chelsea Marandola
Women's Basketball
Sophomore—Johnston, R.I.

Marandola was the leading scorer in both of PC's games this week, with 19 points in a win at St. John's and 20 points and eight rebounds in the Friars' home loss to South Florida.

Scores

<i>Friday 2/9</i>			
Women's Tennis at Albany		L, 6-1	
Men's Ice Hockey vs. Boston College		L, 2-1	
Men's Track at Valentine Invitational		Ind. Results	
Women's Track at Valentine Invitational		Ind. Results	
<i>Saturday 2/10</i>			
Men's Track at Valentine Invitational		Ind. Res.	
Women's Track at Valentine Invitational		Ind. Res.	
Men's Ice Hockey at UMass		T, 3-3 (OT)	
Women's Ice Hockey vs. Boston University		L, 3-1	
Men's Basketball at Pittsburgh		L, 74-68	
Women's Basketball at St. John's		W, 93-77	
Women's Tennis at St. Bonaventure		L, 4-3	
<i>Sunday 2/11</i>			
Women's Ice Hockey vs. New Hampshire		L, 7-0	
<i>Tuesday 2/13</i>			
Women's Basketball vs. South Florida		L, 78-64	
<i>Wednesday 2/14</i>			
Women's Swimming at Big East Championships		Ind. Results	
Men's Swimming at Big East Championships		Ind. Results	

Schedules

<i>Thursday 2/15</i>	
Men's Basketball at Notre Dame	7:00 p.m.
Swimming at Big East Championships	All Day
<i>Friday 2/16</i>	
Men's Ice Hockey at Northeastern	7:00 p.m.
Swimming at Big East Championships	All Day
<i>Saturday 2/17</i>	
Women's Ice Hockey vs. Boston College	1:00 p.m.
Men's Ice Hockey at Vermont	7:00 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. St. John's	12:00 p.m.
Women's Basketball vs. Notre Dame	2:00 p.m.
Swimming at Big East Championships	All Day
Women's Tennis at Rutgers	6:30 p.m.
Track at Big East Championships	TBA
<i>Sunday 2/18</i>	
Track at Big East Championships	TBA
Women's Ice Hockey at Boston College	2:00 p.m.
<i>Tuesday 2/20</i>	
Men's Basketball vs. West Virginia	7:30 p.m.
Women's Basketball at Rutgers	7:30 p.m.

Standings

Men's Hockey East Standings (2/12)

Team	Hockey East				Overall		
	W	L	T	Pts.	W	L	T
New Hampshire	17	3	1	35	22	5	1
Boston University	11	4	7	29	15	5	8
Boston College	12	8	1	25	16	10	1
Maine	12	8	1	25	19	8	2
Vermont	10	7	4	24	15	11	4
Massachusetts	10	8	3	23	13	10	5
Northeastern	7	11	4	18	10	14	4
Providence	6	13	2	14	7	19	2
UMass Lowell	4	14	3	11	5	19	6
Merrimack	3	16	2	8	3	21	4

Women's Hockey East Standings (2/12)

Team	Hockey East				Overall		
	W	L	T	Pts.	W	L	T
New Hampshire	14	1	1	29	22	3	4
Connecticut	12	4	1	25	17	11	2
Boston College	12	6	0	24	19	8	2
Providence	10	4	3	23	13	13	4
Boston University	8	7	2	18	17	9	3
Maine	4	12	2	10	9	17	2
Northeastern	2	14	2	6	3	24	2
Vermont	1	15	1	3	3	23	2

PC falls back into Hockey East pack with two losses

BY MIKE SPRINGER '08
SPORTS STAFF

Rivalries are a classic part of sports. Baseball has the Sox and Yanks, football has the Pats and Colts, and women's college hockey has the Friars and Wildcats.

After losing its first meeting against the Wildcats 3-1 and then tying them 2-2 in overtime for their second game, the Providence College Women's Hockey Team took the ice on Sunday, Feb. 11, at Schneider Arena. PC was looking for some redemption against long-time rival New Hampshire.

After falling 3-1 the previous day to Boston University, with senior forward Sonny Watrous scoring the Friar's lone goal, PC knew Sunday's game against No. 4/5 UNH would be critical; the top four teams in the Hockey East were separated by just three games and four points with only five games left to play.

"This is a very exciting time to be playing hockey," said Head Coach Bob Deraney. "You have four or five teams all jockeying for position, which makes every game so late in the season like this so crucial."

It was a defensive struggle for much of the first period. UNH missed an opportunity to score at the 1:09 mark when Micaela Long banked a shot off the left goal post, squandering an easy opportunity for the Wildcats.

The first goal of the game would not come until the 12:45 mark when Wildcat Nicole Hekle flicked the puck over the left shoulder of PC's sophomore goaltender Danielle Ciarletta and into the back of the net.

Keeping the pressure on PC, UNH scored again with 3:56 left in the first when Kelly Paton scored on the wrap-around to give the Wildcats a 2-0 advantage going into the second.

PC had an opportunity to score early in the second period, but freshman forward



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Senior Sonny Watrous scored PC's only goal of the weekend, a second period tally against Boston University on Saturday, Feb. 10. After the weekend's results, the Friars currently sit fourth in Hockey East.

Brittany Nelson missed off the rebound made on a pad save by UNH goalie Melissa Bourdon.

"There is a big difference in this sport playing behind versus playing ahead," said Deraney after the game. "That's why when you have opportunities to score like that you have to take advantage of them."

Taking advantage of a missed opportunity by the Friars, UNH built a comfortable lead when Steph Holmes netted her fifth goal of the season at the 8:07 mark to put the Cats up 3-0 going into the third.

In the third, penalties once again hindered any chance the Friars had to muster a comeback as three of the Wildcat's next

four goals would result from power plays.

UNH's first goal of the third stanza would come off a power play when Jennifer Hitchcock rocketed a shot from the top of the red-line of the Friar's offensive zone and into the back of the net at the 2:49 mark to go up 4-0.

At the 8:43 mark, UNH took advantage of another power play opportunity when Hekle notched her second goal of the game to give the Wildcats five straight unanswered goals. Both of the goals came as the Wildcats held a 5-3 player advantage on the ice due to PC penalties.

The final power play goal for the Wildcats came at the 8:43 mark when Leah

Craig scored, stretching the Wildcats' lead to 6-0. Not through scoring, the Wildcats connected for their seventh and final goal of the game when Sadie Wright-Ward shot the puck over the out-stretched body of Ciarletta to seal the game for UNH.

"There is a lot of emotion and passion going into a game like this," said junior forward Kelli Doolin. "Maybe a little too much, and that's what caused us to get some of those penalties which really hurt us in the end."

In Saturday's game against the Terriers, the Friars fell behind quickly in the first after BU scored at the 9:52 mark and then again at the 17:24 mark with goals by Nicki Wiart and Gina Kearns.

The Friars responded in the second, cutting their deficit in half, when senior forward Sonny Watrous scored the Friars' lone goal, her 10th of the season, at the 14:39 mark.

Even though the Friars outshot the Terriers 37-26, penalties once again hindered Providence's chances of a comeback as the team tallied 13 penalties for 26 minutes compared to BU's eight penalties for just 16 minutes.

BU's final goal came at the 19:59 mark in the third on an empty net when Kearns scored her second goal of the game to cap off BU's 3-1 victory over PC.

Looking ahead to next weekend's pivotal match up against Boston College, the Friars know they must curb their penalties to have any chance of being successful.

"We need to work on staying out of the penalty box," said Doolin. "That's something that really hurt us this weekend. Next week we also need to work on getting our speed up too, especially against a quick team like BC."

The loss drops the Friars to 10-4-3 in the Hockey East and 13-13-4 overall. Providence will return to action Saturday, Feb. 17, when the Friars take on Boston College at Schneider Arena. They will then head up to Chestnut Hill for the final game of their season series with the Eagles on Sunday, Feb. 18.

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Arkansas for Smith and Fagan, BU again for the rest

BY RYAN HOLT '09
SPORTS STAFF

It was a busy week for the Providence College Men's and Women's Track teams. For senior Martin Fagan and junior Max Smith, there was a trip to Fayetteville, Ark., for the Tyson Invitational. For the rest of the team, there was the Valentine Invitational at Boston University.

Smith and Fagan had a great weekend in Arkansas, where the Tyson Invitational provided them with both top competition and national attention. The meet was later telecast on ESPN2 on tape-delay.

"The meet at Arkansas saw Max and Martin compete against some of the best athletes in the country," said Head Coach Ray Treacy.

Smith won the 3000-meter race with a time of 7:55.18, a personal best.

"I was happy with my performance, but it's important to stay focused on nationals and aim to win there," said Smith.

Smith's performance was a good one, but he knows there is more work to be done.

"I'm fitter than ever but still feel like I have a lot left in me so I guess the biggest challenge is to stay focused, be patient, and have the confidence in Ray's [Treacy] training to get me into the best shape possible for nationals," he said.

Fagan also had a great day, finishing ninth in the 5000-meter race with a time of 13:55.05—good enough to be a provisional NCAA qualifying time.

The Valentine Invitational provided many successes for the rest of the Friars and was crucial for those with the hopes of a postseason meet.

"We had a great weekend with more Big East Qualifiers than expected, so everyone is starting to run fast when they need to," said Smith.

"Everyone who did run had strong performances," said senior Meghan Owen.

"The BU meet was a last chance meet for athletes to qualify for the Big East meet this weekend," said Treacy. Many took advantage of the opportuni-

ty and qualified for the Big East Conference meets. According to Treacy, the 13 men and 11 women who qualified mark the most in team history. For a program with such a storied history as this one, breaking a previous record of qualifiers is a big deal.

"This is very encouraging to the present status of the team," said Treacy.

"We have a good start to the indoor season," said Owen. "It is exciting to see everyone doing so well."

The men were led by sophomore Nick Berlutti, who finished third in the 800 meters with a time of 1:55.49. Owen led the women's team, placing fifth in the mile with a time of 4:49.33.

Other strong performances included sophomore Charlie Dewey, who finished 18th in the 400-meters, and junior Greg Giardino finished 18th in the high jump.

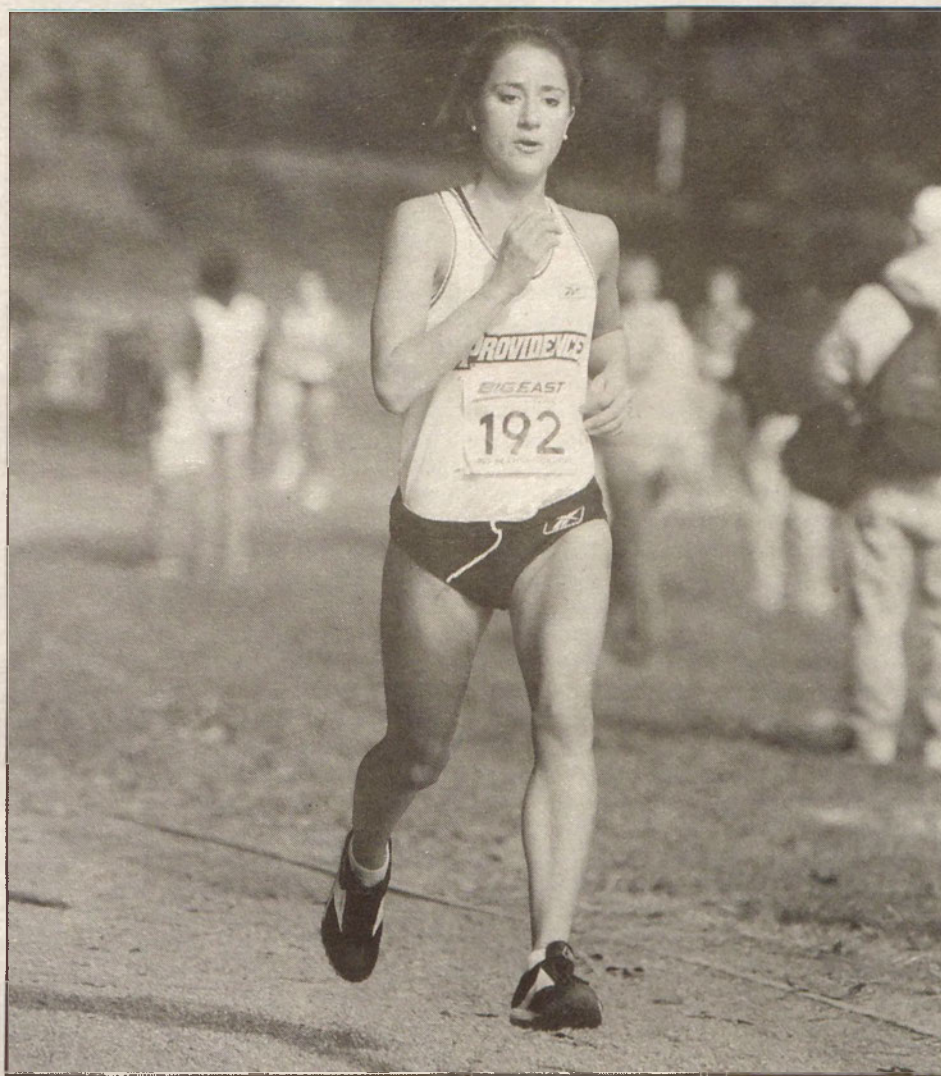
For the women, sophomore Katie Elliott finished 22nd in the 800-meter race.

The Friars head to the Big East Conference Meet in Ohio this weekend with a record-breaking number of athletes set to compete. The Big East Championships is always big for this program, as personal records, conference pride, and trips to the NCAA meets are all at stake. This weekend's meet will be one of many "championship" meets ahead.

"We can expect big performances over the weekend from Martin Fagan, Max Smith, Ahmed Haji, Hayden McLaren, and Charlie Dewey on the men's side, and Aine Hoban, Danette Doetzel, Katie DiCamillo, Meghan Owen, and Breffini Twohig on the women's side," said Treacy.

"The greatest challenge for the rest of our season is to compete well and have a strong showing at Big East's, New England's and ECAC's and have a few more girls qualify for nationals," said Owen.

The Friars seem to be ready for the next step in their season and are off to a wonderful start. Considering so many have qualified for the conference meets, much can be expected from this team both this weekend and in the coming weeks at the New England and NCAA Championships.



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Senior Meghan Owen led the Friar women in the mile at the Valentine Invitational, finishing fifth overall with a time of 4:49.33.

Pitt: Stretch run awaits Friars

continued from back page

player—there's no doubt about that—and we need him to be that because now we have a stable answer inside to go against some of [the better frontcourt players] in the league," Welsh said. "He's proven himself to be an All-League player, that's for sure."

Victory against Pitt would have been huge for the Friars, as it would have gone a long way toward earning them a spot in next month's NCAA Tournament. As it stands now, the Friars are like any other team on the bubble: Their résumé has high points and low points, and whether or not they get in will depend on how they finish the season.

That season-ending stretch commences Thursday with a trip to Notre Dame before the Friars return home to take on St. John's on Saturday, Feb. 17, and No. 23 West Virginia on Tuesday, Feb. 20: Three games in six days that could make or break PC's Tournament hopes.

"We've got to be prepared mentally, and we've got to watch ourselves on the off days that we still prepare but get our rest as well," Welsh said. "We have to understand that every game is going to be amped up even higher than the previous one because of what's at stake."

With just a 1-6 record on the road, the Friars sorely need a win at Notre Dame to prove to the Tournament selection committee that they are capable of winning away from the Dunkin' Donuts Center. With the Irish and the hot-shooting West Virginia Mountaineers on the docket, Welsh says that the man-to-man utilized against Pitt could come into play again.

"We can play man-to-man," he said. "People think that we can't play man-to-man, but we've played man-to-man at different times this year to win basketball games and we're certainly going to have to do it again as we move forward."

"We'll mix and match probably in all of our games; the key is not letting a team get comfortable."

Though the Tournament picture is no clearer now than it was a few weeks back, Welsh said the team isn't concerned about the other bubble teams.

"There's three weeks to go, and we've put ourselves in position," he said. "We really don't need help—that's the nice thing. ... We can do things ourselves; it's right there for us."

Thursday's game will be broadcasted on ESPN, with the tip-off scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Saturday's home game against St. John's starts at noon, while Tuesday's game against the Mountaineers will tip off at 7:30 p.m.

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Will David Beckham make soccer more popular in the United States, and will he bring any more players with him from Europe?

—Andrew Reardon

One of the smartest things that Major League Soccer (MLS) has ever decided to do is acquire David Beckham to play for the L.A. Galaxy. To begin with, Beckham's rugged good looks are the envy of men and women across the globe, never mind just in the United States. That alone will surely provide the MLS with the boost in ratings that they are looking for. In years past, soccer has not gotten the recognition for which it has hoped. Some expect that with Beckham and his saucy wife, Victoria "Posh Spice" Beckham, the MLS will gain a substantial following and garner the type of die-hard dedication as found overseas.

Granted, Beckham has lost a step or two as of late, but he is still a rather dominant player on the field. The MLS now hopes that acquiring more skilled players will boost the league's credibility as fielding some of the best players in the world.

Of course, one man cannot bring about such a drastic change in what I thought to be a dying sport—that is, unless that man is Pelé. Pelé was a pioneer in the sport of soccer. He dominated everyone he faced, made instructional videos, invented the bicycle kick, and beat a group of soccer-playing Nazis in the movie *Victory* starring Sylvester Stallone. If there is anyone who has done more for soccer, I don't know him, or choose not to. Regardless of my man-crush on Pelé, I think that the Beckhams coming to America will be almost as beneficial as Prince Akeem's *Coming to America*.

—Greg Hartwell '07

Remember, Cowl readers . . . we want to hear from you! Just e-mail your questions either about PC sports or sports in general to cowlsports@gmail.com, and we'll do our best to answer them—and stir up a little debate if we can!

Thanks,
The Cowl Sports Staff

First off, let's get one thing straight: Soccer will never be the most popular sport in the United States. That does not, however, mean that it cannot grow as a sport in America. Since the United States hosted the World Cup back in 1994, we have seen the development of a permanent league (the MLS) and the advancement of the U.S. National Team to the quarterfinals of the 2002 World Cup (soccer's version of the Elite Eight).

But the MLS is missing one thing: Star power. And that's where David Beckham comes in. His celebrity extends far beyond his sport, but don't buy into the myth that he's a washed-up pretty boy; if you don't believe me, check out the equalizing goal he had for Real Madrid last weekend (<http://youtube.com/watch?v=T9Sxqq3ov0Q>). We're talking about the most internationally recognized athlete—of any sport—of his era, and his presence in the United States can only be a good thing for soccer in America.

Will others follow? The MLS is doing what it can to draw more stars—and not just over-the-hill former superstars, but real world class players who still have a few years of top-level soccer left in the tank. Names like Ronaldo and Pavel Nedved have been mentioned, and while it's tough to forecast who will be next to cross the pond, Beckham's status as a trailblazer ensures that he will be joined by some other European players sooner rather than later.

—Kevin O'Brien '07

Greedy: Coming to PC

continued from back page

offensive game—but Friar fans hold onto the hope that he could be the next PC star. As with any recruit, only time will tell.

Conference roundup

It was well-known heading into this year that the Big East was not going to be the juggernaut conference it had been in previous years. But West Virginia's 73-65 win over then No. 2 UCLA this past Sunday proved that the conference is still one to be reckoned with in the national college hoops picture.

It remains to be seen exactly how many Big East teams will be dancing come March. Though it won't be the nine from last year, the conference will still be well represented in the NCAA Tournament. Pitt, Marquette, Georgetown, and now the Mountaineers look set for the Tourney (barring a total collapse down the stretch), while teams like Notre Dame, Villanova, Louisville, PC and Syracuse are in need of strong finishes to get off the bubble.

With the Big East's middling RPI (fifth out of the major conferences), it's tough to see more than three of those bubble teams being selected. And, with losses to two of these already ('Nova and Louisville), the Friars can ill afford a slip-up to another team in that group.

Regardless of the exact number of tourney teams, the conference still looks poised to do damage in March, and it's due in large part to underclassmen—seeing as 13 of the Big East's 14 leading scorers from last year did not return. The prime example is Marquette, which is led by a trio of sophomores (Dominic James, Jerel McNeal, and Wes Matthews). With the importance of guard play in the Tourney, the Golden Eagles may just be the Big East team best equipped to make a deep run.

College basketball's fountain of youth

Finally, speaking of youth, who can deny the impact of the NBA's new age requirement? Super-freshmen Kevin Durant of

Texas and Greg Oden of Ohio State continue to steal headlines, while UNC looks like a Final Four team, thanks in large part to three important freshmen (Brandan Wright, Wayne Ellington, and Ty Lawson). It's really a win-win situation for the sport—fans can become familiar with the game's future superstars by seeing them play in pressure-packed conference and national title races (instead of playing 18 minutes a game for an NBA doormat). It has also made college basketball that much more exciting, as Durant is a strong candidate for Player of the Year.

“There's no guarantee that the next generation of high school stars like O.J. Mayo and Michael Beasley won't become selfish me-first players who rip a program apart, much like Eddie Griffin did to Seton Hall a few years back.”

But in the back of my mind, I'm just hoping that the whole thing doesn't eventually backfire. The success of Carmelo Anthony with Syracuse has ushered in a new era, as coaches bend over backwards to court the so-called “one and done” that they hope can lead their team to a national title in their lone collegiate season.

If it works out well—as with Melo, Durant, and Oden—then it's a great boost to a program. But there's no guarantee that the next generation of high school stars like O.J. Mayo and Michael Beasley (a high school teammate of Peterson) won't become selfish me-first players who rip a program apart, much like Eddie Griffin did to Seton Hall a few years back.

Players jumping to the NBA after their freshman year isn't a problem that PC will encounter anytime soon, so rest assured about Greedy, Friar fans: He may or may not be the next Ryan Gomes, but at least he won't be going anywhere anytime soon.

Tennis: Back in the game with spring season underway

continued from back page

her deep concentration throughout the match.

“Ashley, who had a tremendous fall, continued with probably one of her finest wins of her young career,” he said. “She had to be very tough mentally, as this match could have slipped away with one error at the wrong time.”

In addition to Rissolo's strong showing, Cusack went 4-0 over the weekend, winning two singles matches and two doubles matches. Hawkins-Hodgson went 3-1 for the weekend, winning two doubles matches and one singles match.

The young team, with three freshmen and two sophomores representing five of the six starters, and senior Kerry Schulz as

the lone upperclassman starter, demonstrates an enormous amount of dedication and potential.

“We were more focused on Saturday because we didn't like the outcome of Friday's match,” said Cusack.

This theme of building on past play and learning from each match will be a constant objective for the spring season. Turner and his players will be working hard this spring; shaping the identity of their team and challenging themselves both individually as well as a group.

Moreover, Turner said he hopes to instill in his young team the knowledge and strategy necessary to succeed this season.

“It's not just about going out there and hitting the ball,” said Turner. “Every match we have to know the weaknesses of our opponent, and capitalize upon them, as

well as overcome our own weaknesses.”

PC will get a chance to redeem its early losses and earn its first victory of the spring with a match against Rutgers—a team it did not face last fall—to be held on Saturday, Feb. 17, at Rally Point Racquet Club in Smithfield, R.I.

So far this season, the team has a combined 4-3 record for the fall and spring while the Scarlet Knights just won their first match of the spring against Army.

Though PC is young, it is talented. Rissolo was the first Providence athlete to win a match in the ITA Division I Northeast Regionals in October since 2001 when she defeated Drexel's Emily Lewis in the opening round. Rissolo also teamed up with Cohen to compete in the doubles competition, losing in the first round.

Though she fell in the second round,

Rissolo's experience at an intense competition like the Regionals will prove beneficial in her matches this spring. She and Cohen will strive to use what they learned at Regionals to help lead their young team this spring. They hope to bring more of their peers with them to the Regionals come this fall. Having placed third at the New England Championships last fall, the Friars have success to build on this spring.

The improvement seen from Friday's match to Saturday's match leaves the team confident that it will be able to stick with its competition and give its opponents neck and neck matches in the future. This spring, the Friars strive to fire on all cylinders and hope to compete at a level that will allow them to take down some Big East tennis powerhouses.

Providence: Win over St. John's ends seven-game skid

continued from back page

Aga Lorenc and freshman Emily Courmoyer, were already on the bench with five. Senior Shauna Snyder racked up two early and was forced to sit for most of the first half. As a team, Providence committed 25 fouls to send the Bulls to the line for 30 free throws. They made 21, a huge difference in the game.

“They missed a lot of shots,” Seymore said. “But when they missed we fouled and consequently, they went to the line and were 21 of 30.”

The Bulls, on the other hand, committed only 14 fouls and did not have a player foul out. The Friars went 10-13 from the foul line for the night.

The Friars did show some sparks in the second and were only down by seven with just under two minutes to play before fouls and poor rebounding helped South Florida build an insurmountable lead. Sophomore Catherine Bove finished with 11 points—

including two impressive treys—and four assists while Lorenc led the Friars with nine rebounds before being hit by foul trouble.

Providence traveled to St. John's in desperate need of a win if it wanted to stay in the hunt for a bid to the Big East Tournament. As has often been the case this season, the team got off to a sluggish start and found itself down by as much as 18 at one point. PC clawed its way back before heading into the locker room at halftime behind by two, 44-42.

“I just looked at it as just another win,” said Seymore. “And we needed to get a win. I think that helped us.”

This season a halftime deficit has meant a loss is on the way for the Friars. Until Saturday, they had not won a game in which they did not open the second half with the lead. This time though, the players were able to keep the Red Storm away from the basket while they turned up their own offense.

Marandola led all scorers with 20 points while Bove exploded for 14 points in the second half to finish with a double-double—17 points and a career high 14 rebounds. PC's freshmen also stood out offensively as Brittany Dorsey scored 13 points and Kendria Holmes chipped in 10.

Even with the loss to South Florida on Tuesday, the Friars still have a shot at making the Big East Tournament, though it will not be easy. The team has just four games remaining, and according to Seymore, it must get two wins in order to stay in the hunt.

The Friars will get their first chance to qualify when they take on Notre Dame in Alumni Hall on Saturday, Feb. 17, at 2:00 p.m. On Tuesday, Feb. 20, they will travel to Rutgers. These last few games are key to the Friars' postseason hopes. Right now, the team is tied 12th place with St. John's. If the season ended today, Providence would make the 12-team competition by virtue of its win over the

Johnnies, but nothing is certain going into the final two weeks.

“I think we've got a shot,” said Seymore of his team's chances at making the tournament. “It would have been nice to get this game [South Florida]. We have to get at least two wins out of these last four games, but it starts with one.”

Both Notre Dame (8-4 Big East) and Rutgers (8-3 Big East) will challenge the Friars. If they want to win, they will have to work on some of the things that lost them the South Florida contest, namely rebounds and foul trouble. But the team has already beaten some very good teams this season, like Louisville, currently No. 3 in the Big East.

If the Friars are able to keep their offense going and overcome their defensive woes, the team could very well find itself playing in the Hartford Civic Center for a chance at the Big East title come March.

Uneven weekend for PC—loss to BC, tie with UMass

BY DREW GOUCHER '08
SPORTS STAFF

The Providence College's Men's Hockey Team once again demonstrated how to compete against Top 20 NCAA teams, but only mustered a loss and a tie.

PC rang up a staggering 46 shots against No. 15 ranked Boston College in a 2-1 loss, then 40 more against the No. 17 University of Massachusetts in settling for a 3-3 tie.

"We're disappointed in some ways," said Head Coach Tim Army. "We're playing very, very well and just not getting results. Maybe it will start to turn a little for us."

That includes better overall play and improved goaltending, which had been up and down earlier this year. But scoring has remained elusive. The team is averaging only 1.89 goals per game on almost 34 shots, a measly shooting percentage of 5.6.

The Friars opened Friday's home tilt against BC with a flurry of chances. At 2:36, junior winger Jon Rheault was able to connect, sliding a backhand through BC netminder Cory Schneider for his eighth goal of the season. Freshman forward Greg Collins and sophomore center Nick Mazzolini assisted. After a slow start, Rheault is now second on the team in goals and points, and tied for second in assists.

Just moments later, senior center Tony Zancanaro rang two shots off the post as the Friars continued to skate the puck down BC's throat, trying for an early two- or three-goal edge. But a few minutes later, the lead was gone, as BC defenseman Brett Motherwell's shot from the left side found its way past junior goalie Tyler Sims to tie the game. PC pressed, but both Sims and Schneider kept things knotted at 1-1.

Providence continued to play quickly and aggressively in the second, but unfortunately, BC got another goal—the only one it would need—when BC freshman Matt Price swatted a loose puck into the net after Sims had made an incredible save on BC's Andrew Orpik.

The third period featured the recurring theme of Friar shots, but no goals. In the waning minutes, a freak play would dash PC's momentum to the boards.

With Providence holding the puck in BC territory, a BC defender lost his stick between PC's point men, blocking a prime passing lane. Defenseman Trevor Ludwig, attempting to open the seam for a possible one-time shot, swept the stick aside. However, the referee whistled Ludwig for un-sportsmanlike conduct—basically for making it difficult for the BC player to get his stick back—with 2:01 remaining.

"It's instinct," said senior winger Colin McDonald. "You just want to get that stick

out of the way. If I was Trevor, I probably would've done the same thing."

While shorthanded, Providence pulled Sims to create a 5-on-5, but the rest of the period ticked away as the Eagles cycled the puck aimlessly to kill clock. The buzzer sounded, cementing the 2-1 defeat, and the old Vince Lombardi quote immediately came to mind: "We didn't lose the game, we just ran out of time."

Providence outshot BC 46-23, and had 21 high-quality, "Grade A" scoring chances, while the Eagles had a mere six. And worse yet, UMass Lowell had won its game Thursday night, pulling within three points of PC for the eighth and final Hockey East playoff berth.

"That's the way it's been all year," said Rheault. "Cory Schneider's a great goalie, but we've got to overcome that. The game was bittersweet though, because as bad as it is to lose, it also shows us we're right there."

"I never like to say a goalie beat us, but he kept them in the game when we were dominating," added McDonald.

On Saturday against UMass, the Friars were able to come away with a point from a 3-3 tie. Providence struck first on McDonald's team-leading 11th goal of the year when he fired a high shot to the glove side that beat UMass' Jon Quick. Sophomore winger Kyle Laughlin and senior defenseman Dinos Stamoulis assisted. But by the middle of the second period, UMass had pulled ahead 2-1.

"After the first goal, we basically handed them the game," said Rheault. "But it's big that we were able to come back and turn it around."

Providence answered with some good cycle work in the offensive zone. After taking a feed in the corner from freshman forward John Mori, Mazzolini found pinching freshman defenseman Mark Payne for a quick goal. PC then took a 3-2 lead midway through the third period, as Fayne and senior winger Jamie Carroll helped set up sophomore defenseman Matt Taormina, who scored his third goal of the season. But UMass countered in the final minute. The lead, and a win 40 seconds away, was gone.

"It was tough to see that puck go in, because we played a good game, and that was one we should've won," said McDonald.

Overtime proved indecisive, as neither team scored. Sims finished with 35 saves in the effort, and Providence outshot UMass 40-38.

A closer look at Hockey East indicates that it's not just PC having difficulty scoring. There is a league-wide downturn in offense. Only two Hockey East schools, UNH and Maine, are averaging three or more goals a game. Army said he believes that this is because of the way



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Sophomore forward Jon Rheault scored to give PC a 1-0 lead over Boston College on Friday, Feb. 9. Despite doubling the Eagles in shots (46-23), the Friars could not put another one past BC goalie Corey Schneider.

young American players are taught the game today.

"Players in our country are not encouraged to think offensively. Especially at the younger levels, it's more about coaching than playing," Army said.

"Because American youth hockey is so structured, kids don't play on the pond anymore," said Army. "Think of it like sandlots in baseball or schoolyards in basketball. You've got to encourage kids to develop offense, and that doesn't happen in structured systems. [At PC], we have some coaching and systems, but we want to create an environment where [the players] can grow offensively and have fun—to bring the sandlot here to PC."

The aggressive offense has improved throughout the season, and is at its best now. As a result of better puck control and offensive possession, the Friar defense has also improved. With the crunch for the playoffs approaching, this bodes well.

"Right now we just want to solidify our position for the playoffs," Army added. "Our schedule gives us the opportunity to play Northeastern, giving us a chance to try and catch them, as well as play Merrimack, who along with UMass Lowell, is chasing us."

"We've had a good week of practice and a good string of games," said Rheault. "Northeastern is a very good team, but I think we're better. It's going to be a dogfight. Whether we want it to be or not, this is arguably our most important weekend of the year."

"If we can sweep Northeastern, we'll be right there with them," McDonald added.

Indeed, with a four-point weekend against Northeastern this Friday, Feb. 16, and Saturday, Feb. 17, the Friars could jump to a tie for seventh in Hockey East with Northeastern.

It all depends on whether some of those shots start finding the back of the net.

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SPORTS

THE COWL 24

FEBRUARY 15, 2007

Despite strong effort, Friars fall at Pittsburgh

BY KEVIN O'BRIEN '07
SPORTS EDITOR

PC GETS GREEDY; OTHER COLLEGE HOOPS NOTES

Friar fans, perhaps more than most, understand the crapshoot that is recruiting. "Can't miss" prospects wind up, well, missing, while guys labeled as too fat and too slow to play major Division I basketball go on to become All-Americans (see Gerald Brown for the former and Ryan Gomes for the latter).



The Sports
Geek

by Kevin O'Brien '07
Sports Editor

So when word came out that the Friars had procured their first commitment for the Class of 2011, the Friars' faithful began hoping that he will become the next recruiting steal, while understanding the possibility that he may never quite pan out.

The man in question is Jamine Peterson, a 6'5" small forward from New York via Notre Dame Prep in Fitchburg, Mass. Peterson is nicknamed "Greedy," and he announced on Thursday, Feb. 11, that he will sign a letter of intent with PC in April.

Described as a big-time athlete, Peterson hopes to provide the wing athleticism that the Friars have lacked since Dwight Brewington called it quits at PC at the beginning of last season. He'll have his work cut out for him, earning time in a rotation that should feature a senior, six juniors, and at least three sophomores, but it seems that Greedy is capable of providing a different dimension—namely, run-and-jump ability and defensive tenacity.

He'll come in still having a lot to learn—namely, a more well-rounded

GREEDY/Page 22

The Providence College Men's Basketball Team proved in its game against Pittsburgh that it is capable of playing well on the road against quality opponents. Pitt, on the other hand, proved why it is the best team in the Big East.

The Friars stuck with the No. 7 Panthers through the game's final minutes before succumbing 74-68 on Saturday, Feb. 10. It is a loss that leaves the Friars at 5-5 in the Big East and 15-8 overall—and also leaves them sitting precariously on the NCAA Tournament bubble.

"We're playing better [on the road] but it's not good enough, and I think our guys understand that," Head Coach Tim Welsh said. "They don't feel good about just playing better; that's good if you can build on it, and that's our next step."

The Friars were oh-so-close to taking that next step against a Pitt team that had rolled up a 21-3 record entering Saturday's game. Utilizing a lot more man-to-man defense than they've played over the course of the year, the Friars kept the Panthers' offense in check en route to a 34-33 halftime lead.

"I wanted to come out with a little more energy against them," Welsh said of his decision to go with man defense. "They've given us problems in the zone in the past."

It also helped that PC was able to get Pittsburgh center Aaron Gray—all seven feet and 270 pounds of him—in foul trouble in the first half.

But in the second half, with Gray back in the lineup, Pitt wrestled control of the game away from the Friars. After PC grabbed a 42-36 lead with 16:35 left, the Panthers went on an 11-2 run to establish a lead they would not relinquish.

PC countered with sophomore guard



MARY PELLETIER '09/The Cowl

Sophomore forward Geoff McDermott and the Friars went punch for punch with Pitt's frontline, but ultimately fell short, losing 74-68.

Sharaud Curry and senior center Herb Hill down the stretch, as Curry canned three treys in the second half while Hill scored on an assortment of jump hooks inside. In the end, however, some horrific free throw shooting (7-16 for the game) and some key turnovers in the closing minutes did PC in.

Curry and Hill led the Friars with 20 points apiece, while Hill also added 10 rebounds to notch his ninth double-double of the season. Sophomores Geoff McDermott and Weyinmi Efejuku had 11 points and nine points, respectively, while freshman center Ray Hall had six points

and five rebounds in 22 minutes of action—a career high for him, as he was called upon early and often to use his size against Gray.

To PC's credit, the robust Pitt frontline did not dominate the battle inside, as the Friars posted a 41-33 rebounding advantage as well as a 38-36 advantage in points in the paint. Much of that success was due to Hill, who battled the conference's top player to a standstill inside.

"I think he's proven that he's an elite

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Women snap Big East losing streak

BY ERIN REDIHAN '08
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Sometimes change can be a good thing. Other times, it is not so positive.

The Providence College Women's Basketball Team (13-12, 3-9 Big East) saw both sides of this in its games last week. On the plus side, the team beat St. John's 93-77 on Saturday, Feb. 10, to end its seven game losing streak.

Its excitement, however, was short-lived, as the Friars went on to blow a 10-point lead in the first half and fall to South Florida at home on Tuesday, Feb. 13, 78-64.

Fresh off its win over the Red Storm, Providence was hoping to start a winning streak and improve its chances of making the Big East Tournament at the Hartford Civic Center March 3-6. The game got off to a good start, with the Friars up early 10-8 after Shauna Snyder scored two of her 11 points on the night.

The lead changed hands multiple times in the first half, with PC

by as much as 10 with two minutes to play. South Florida cut that lead in half, however, and the Friars went into the locker room with a 38-33 lead.

The second half was a different story. The Bulls opened with a 7-3 run and never looked back. The PC defense simply could not keep up with leading scorer Jessica Dickson and the rest of the South Florida team.

"For us to win against good teams, everyone has to play well," said Head Coach Phil Seymore. "And not everyone played well tonight."

As has been the case all season, the Friars were plagued by a lack of both offensive and defensive rebounds. Overall, the Bulls beat them on the boards 49-38.

Freshman Kendria Holmes scored in double figures in both PC games this week.

And as Seymore knows, those missed opportunities build up. "They almost doubled us on offensive rebounds," he said after the game. "We only got 12. We didn't do a good job boxing out."

Fouls posed another problem for the team. With more than five minutes to play, two Friars, junior

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COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

PC TENNIS SWINGS BACK INTO ACTION

BY MOLLIE QUINN '09
SPORTS STAFF

Freezing temperatures and snowfall greeted the start of the Providence College Women's Tennis Team's 2007 spring season. In the opening match on Friday, Feb. 9, PC faced the University of Albany, followed by St. Bonaventure University on Saturday, Feb. 10. Despite strong efforts from the six starting players, the Friars were defeated 6-1 by Albany and 4-3 by St. Bonaventure.

Falling short by only one point on Saturday against St. Bonaventure, the Friars played significantly better than they had in Friday's match against Albany.

"One day made a huge difference in our play," said Head Coach Wayne Turner.

As expected, the first few matches of the season can make for a difficult adjustment period, as the team has not played competitively since the fall. Although the players trained in the offseason, it is difficult to simulate match play and gauge the competition each player will be facing.

In the contest against Albany,

Providence matched up well. Its opponents, however, played a more solid game of tennis, building up the score quickly, to a point where Providence was unable to make a comeback.

Nevertheless, freshman Allison Cohen demonstrated strong play. At No. 4 singles, Cohen was relentless in attacking the ball, but ended up losing the third set in a tie-breaker. Some of Cohen's classmates did prevail; freshman doubles team, Dara Hawkins Hodgson and Jen Cusack, won their match against Albany, 8-2.

The close outcome of Saturday's match was the result of hard work put forth by many of the players. Sophomore Ashley Rissolo prevailed over Anna Perevensetseva, 6-4, 7-5. Rissolo, the team's No. 1 singles player, had to be physically and mentally quick against her opponent to secure a win. Her motivation and positive attitude contributed to her victory on Saturday.

"I went onto the court extremely motivated, fought hard for every point and didn't give up," said Rissolo.

Turner was very pleased with Rissolo's play and observed her

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